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FOREIGN MINISTER MONTES TO VISIT PERU

PY211345Y Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 19 Mar 78 p 9 PY

[Excerpt] During the last week of March, Foreign Minister Vice Adm Oscar Antonio Montes will travel to Peru accepting an invitation from his Peruvian colleaque Jose de la Puente, with whom, it was learned, Minister Montes may sign a joint declaration.

The Argentine foreign minister's visit will last 3 days and he will meet with President Gen Francisco Morales Bermudez during his stay as well as with high-ranking officials of the Peruvian Government. It was learned that the two ministers will study their countries' bilateral relations, which are now excellent, as well as continental and regional problems. The joint declaration to be signed by the two ministers will take note of the friendly exchange and cooperation between the two countries which has increased since President Videla's visit to Peru in April 1977, when agreements to that effect were signed.

RETIRED PERONIST OFFICER JAILED FOR POLITICAL STATEMENTS

PY211744Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1557 GMT 21 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Mar--Reliable sources reported here today that a retired Peronist military officer was sentenced to a 30-day arrest for making political remarks. The sentence was imposed by the army command on Lt Col Jorge Obon (ret), who asked for his discharge in 1955 for supporting the Peronist government ousted the same year, was reinstated in the army in 1974 and was politically active in rightwing nationalism.

Obon, who held public posts in the latest Peronist government, on 11 March 1977 had said to the provincial newspaper EL ATLANTICO (from the city of Mar del Plata) that there will be a "premature call for election in Argentina if the military government fails."

BRIEFS

PANAMANIAN AMBASSADOR LEAVES--Panamanian Ambassador Ernesto Enrique Estenoz Graimado, having completed his tour of duty, visited President Videla this morning to say farewell. [Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 20 Mar 78 PY]

BANZER ALLUDES TO POSSIBLE WARFARE WITH CHILE

PY220208Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0146 GMT 22 Mar 78 PY

[Text] La Paz, 21 Mar--President Hugo Banzer this afternoon strongly warned Chile that Bolivia will arm itself to "speak forcefully" on the basis of "money and guns."

Banzer spoke to 10,000 persons who had gathered in front of the Government House on Murillo Square, at the end of a demonstration supporting the government's decision to break diplomatic relations with Chile. Banzer recalled that "desperate for a solution to our maritime problem, we forced a tripartite meeting in Washington among the presidents of Bolivia, Chile and Peru on the occasion of the signing of the new Panama Canal treaty between the United States and Panama."

He added that "at that meeting we ratified our good will and reasserted the urgent need to find a solution for our landlocked situation." He went on to say that "a few days ago, and as a demonstration of our good will, we sent our special envoy to the Chilean Government to speak and put the cards on the table." President Banzer stated that "unfortunately we saw that we not only failed to advance but that we had lost ground. This situation was the cause of our severance of diplomatic relations with Chile."

Banzer called for Bolivians to support the armed forces in order to implement the desired return to the sea.

"There is no true solidarity among people. There is no equality among nations, as is preached in certain international forums," said President Banzer. "In our talks with Chile, we saw with bitterness, with sorrow, and with anger that we were not being understood."

He added that "the armed forces are the institution which has defended, is defending and will defend the fatherland. We need them for our return to the sea."

Banzer concluded by saying: "We will increase the power of this nation even though it may take us some time, because only those who have money and guns can speak forcefully. Well, if we need guns, we shall have them."

At the same time, Army Commander in Chief Gen Alfonso Villalpando, stated here this afternoon that "the armed forces are getting ready at all levels to take care of whatever military contingency [alternative] may take place."

Further Details of Speech

PY220227Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 21 Mar 78 PY

[Text] With ringing words which come from the roots of our history, paraphrasing the sentiment of scorn by the hero of Topater toward the ursupation of our seaboard, and within the context of all that Bolivia means, President Hugo Banzer Suarez today repeated to the Bolivian people: "We Bolivians never surrender. Let his grandmother surrender, damn it!"

These remarks were made by the chief of state to a gathering which assembled in the Plaza Murillo and which expressed its support for him regarding his government's decision to sever diplomatic relations with Chile. We offer you the most important part of the chief of state's speech:

[begin Banzer recording] With much bitterness and sorrow and, why not say it, with the rage of Abarca when defending the Topater bridge: We have not been understood. Everyone has been saying that (?we had the right), but they have been acting otherwise. My brothers, I believe we have taken an appropriate step. We have exhausted all possibilities. We have resorted to dialog and support. Sorrowfully, it is ideals, very false ones, which are repeated during international forums: solidarity of countries, fraternity and liberty. My dear brothers, they do not exist because I have proven it is so. [applause, chants] My dear brothers, it is terrible, it is terrible, that even in addition to the permanent delay in seeking a solution to this problem, the surrender of the Bolivians is wanted, but we Bolivians fling the truth at them: Us surrender? Let his grandmother surrender, damn it! [end recording]

ADRIAZOLA ISSUES RECRIMINATIONS AGAINST CHILE

PY212012Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Foreign Minister Oscar Adriazola Valda yesterday accused Chile of not having carried out the negotiations it should have held with the Peruvian Government to reach the preliminary agreement stipulated by the 1929 protocol and pointed out that there is no juridical basis whatever for unloading on Bolivia the responsibility for negotiating a strictly bilateral treaty [between Chile and Peru]. Adriazola's remarks had their origin in a statement by the Chilean Foreign Ministry that Bolivia had not made any great effort to obtain Peruvian consent and had put all the blame on Chile, whereas it was Peru which refused to approve the cession of a corridor with an outlet to the sea.

Minister Oscar Adriazola Valda said that he believed it to be urgent to repeat the statement he made regarding this point on 14 February. He stressed that on that occasion he had said: "It is convenient to mention that clause of the Chilean reply which made the arrangement subject to Peruvian consent, and it is useful to remember its exact wording: 'The validity of this arrangement will be subject to obtaining Peruvian consent, according to Article 1 of the complementary protocol to that treaty. The mechanism of a conditional juridical document thus contained a requirement without whose fulfillment it has no legal effect."

When the Peruvian proposal of November 1976 became known, the Chilean Government simply chose to refuse to discuss it, saying that it affected matters which were reserved for its exclusive sovereignty.

Adriazola Valda concluded his remarks by summing up the situation, saying that the Chilean Government contented itself with letting the situation lie where it was and did not carry out, as it should have done and as Bolivia expected it to do, the talks to reach the preliminary agreement stipulated in the 1929 protocol. He believed that this was an indispensable step in order for the Chilean Government to be empowered to negotiate the transfer of territory which could be done only with Peruvian consent.

The foreign minister stressed that this was strictly a Chilean responsibility, because if it made the validity of the arrangement with Bolivia subject to that international treaty and the preliminary Peruvian consent and did not hold any negotiation for the space of 1 year and 4 months to obtain that consent, it is natural to suppose that it abandoned the attempt to make progress toward a solution of Bolivia's great problem and that the essential basis for dialog was thus totally removed. Adriazola Valda believed that this attitude, added to the inflexibility which has already been pointed out, made any progress in the negotiations impossible. This,and not any pause proposed by Bolivia, is the cause of the lethargy in the diplomatic discussions, Adriazola said.

ARMY CHIEF SAYS TROOP MOVEMENTS CEREMONIAL

PY220301Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 21 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Army Commander Maj Gen Alfonso Villalpando Armaza indicated that the deployment of army and navy troops toward border areas of the country is being carried out as part of the Week of the Sea ceremonies and to render honors to the hero of Topater. He maintained that each country is sovereign and it therefore can deploy its military units within its territorial borders, which is something that is not provocation and even less so a disturbance of the peace.

These remarks were made in view of rumors which originated abroad indicating that Bolivia had placed troops in some border regions coinciding with the severing of diplomatic relations with Chile. Villalpando made it clear that they are only small military groups which will hoist flags and will carry out other ceremonies in honor of the Week of the Sea. Finally, the army commander repeated that no one need be alarmed because it is only a question of small units which will carry out civilian ceremonies in honor of 23 March [Day of the Sea].

REROUTE OF GOODS IMPORTED VIA CHILE UNDER STUDY

PY211753Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Mar 78 PY

[Text] State technical organizations began a study yesterday to reroute materials, merchandise, foodstuffs and other goods which Bolivia imports through the ports of Antofagasta and Arica, because of the severance of relations with Chile last Friday. The Foreign Ministry, the Industry and Commerce Ministry and the Transport and Communications Ministry are involved in the studies, which should be finished as soon as possible to defend the economic interests of the country, official spokesmen said.

This rerouting of Bolivian cargoes has been suggested on various occasions by import and export business sectors, but, the experts say, it could not be carried out because of many problems, involving not only Bolivia but also some neighboring countries. Peru has been specifically mentioned, but until a few years ago that country did not have the port infrastructure necessary to receive Bolivian cargoes. According to official reports during the last few months, Peru has modernized its ports in view of the Bolivian interest in them.

Two main possibilities have been mentioned for routing Bolivian cargoes, now arriving through Arica and Antofagasta: Matarani in Peru, and Rosario in Argentina, where Bolivia has a free port.

The problem is one of transport costs which may have repercussions on the domestic economic situation. The technical studies which have been initiated will have to take into account the costs, suitability and national interest.

INTERIOR MINISTER DISCOUNTS ELECTION POSPONEMENT REPORTS

PY231145Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 21 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Interior Minister Gen Guillermo Jimenez Gallo maintained today that there are no justified motives for the government to possibly postpone the 9 June presidential elections. He indicated that the armed forces government is providing every type of measure in order to give the democratization process its appropriate infrastructure and that it is a policy which will progress without any type of alteration.

Jimenez Gallo spoke with reporters at the presidential palace after a very long meeting with President Hugo Banzer, to whom he reported about the political activities being carried out in the country and other matters concerning his sphere of activity. Jimenez believes that the citizenry in general fully supports government policy, including the severing of diplomatic relations with Chile.

RADIO NOTES FEELING OF ECONOMIC HELPLESSNESS

PY172013Y La Paz Radio Panamericana in Spanish 1215 GMT 17 Mar 78 PY

[From the "Bolivia Economica" program]

[Text] The announcement made by the United States that it will sell its strategic reserves of tin, bismuth, antimony and silver has stirred up anti-U.S. feeling in various sectors in Bolivia. This situation has also been taken advantage of in political activities and in the campaigns for the July elections.

If the facts and their consequences, translated into numbers, are coldly analyzed it could be found that the putting up for sale of about 1,000 metric tons of tin per month will not lead to a dangerous modification of the tin price on the international market. The possibility exists, however, that the prices will be modified, going down to levels which have not been foreseen by officials of the Finance Ministry. This might even lead to certain changes of the currency exchange rate, because, apart from the problem we must face regarding the price and production volumes of tin, there is the acute problem of the "black gold." It is known that petroleum production levels have gone down in a manner to cause serious concern, and at present there are apparently hardly any propsects that production will increase, except perhaps to reach the levels we maintained in earlier years.

The prospects of maintaining economic stability are in fact uncertain and, to tell the truth, are linked to the future political stability of the country. It is obvious that no action can taken, because the factors of the situation are beyond our control and we cannot modify them.

As we have said, the sale of strategic mineral reserves, announced by U.S. officials here in La Paz, has stirred up anti-U.S. feeling which may even influence the political future of Bolivia. Anti-U.S. feelings running high among the population seem to be caused by the fact that people are becoming aware that there is little or almost nothing developing countries can do or say when an industrialized country takes measures which are contrary to the interests of the small countries. This seems to have caused more resentment than the economic repercussions. We are becoming aware of our enourmous economic dependency which places underdeveloped countries at the mercy of the highly industrialized countries.

JORNAL DO BRASIL INTERVIEWS WITH CARDINAL ARNS

FY220135Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 20 Mar 78 p 5 PY

[Undated interview granted by Sao Paulo Archbishop Cardinal Paulo Evaristo Arns to JORNAL DO BRASIL]

[Text] JORNAL DO BRASIL: Do you consider yourself a leader of the Brazilian church?

Arns: It is very difficult to judge oneself. The bishop's true job is to take care of the community, stimulate active sectors and interpret Gospel for his people. I do not believe that in Sao Paulo any of these tasks have been accomplished through my efforts. I believe that I spend most of my time listening and then speaking and doing things on behalf of others. For example, our goals have been discussed and voted on by the people. I only approved them. Therefore, to say that someone is a leader has no meaning. I believe that there is no sense in speaking in terms of leadership. It is sensible, however, to speak in terms of sustained service to the people, listening to the people and sharing their lives.

JORNAL DO BRASIL: When Bishop Sigaud charged Bishops Pedro Casaldaliga and Thomas Balduino with defending "leftwing" ideas, the two of them wrote a letter to Pope Paul VI. Prior to that they had talked to you and it was you who personally delivered this letter to Pope Paul. Does this gesture not confirm that you are a leader?

Arns: I believe that human rights are the true core of the Gospel. Therefore, my duty is to do something, not only to try. I find constant encouragement in the people of Sao Paulo, a people truly sensitive to the whole situation. My priests have never failed me. I can say that I have over 1,000 priests at my side, in addition to 4,000 nuns and thousands of laymen who are constantly encouraging me never to abandon those whose basic rights are being violated. This does not mean political prisoners alone. It is even more applicable to labor conditions, social gaps, participation in political activities and social life. I could even say that if someone is defending human rights it is not the archbishop of Sao Paulo; it is the city of Sao Paulo. The city makes the archbishop what he is, just as the archbishop contributes to shaping the church of Sao Paulo, which stimulated this reaction.

JORNAL DO BRASIL: There are some who see politics and demagoguery in your campaign for human rights. Do you believe yourself to be a politician and a demagog?

Arns: The church has always supplied guidelines for participation and the essence of the Gospel is to unite men and to lead them toward fraternal coexistence. Thus, we are forced to get involved in politics in this sense. We really take very seriously everything that concerns all men, the common good, and especially everything that concerns those who suffer most. When Christ was asked what he had come to do, and if he were the Messiah, he answered: "Tell them that the lame shall walk, the blind shall see, the deaf shall hear." To have lame men walk means to live together, to walk together; to make the blind see means to make the people aware and to let them participate. This is the true, deeply evangelizing mission of the church. Now, as to partisan politics, you have never seen me involved in them. Last Sunday I stated that if the church were to participate in the great demonstration against the cost of living, no politicians should be allowed to speak, but rather they should let the people speak, to let people's representatives and people's leaders speak without any partisan politics.

JORNAL DO BRASIL: Few are the politicians, regardless of the party, who have not spoken with you. Why do they seek you? What do they talk about?

Arns: First of all, allow me to thank these politicians for not coming to us during elections. Most of the time they seek me to tell me or ask me about certain facts to interpret them together. They also come to find out about church plans, make their objections and offer suggestions. For me any meeting with a politician is an opportunity to examine our consciences jointly, something which I do with total freedom. It seems to me that nowadays the politicians accept these joint discussions. There have also been cases when I have called politicians to tell them: "You are struggling for paltry motives. The time has come to join forces and to do more important things." I also carry out my functions as a pastor. I have called more than one to tell him: "My friend, I expect different behavior from you." Not in these rude words, of course, but in a more conversational manner: "Why all these intrigues, why all these petty animosities?" In general terms we discuss different phenomena. For example, they come and ask about the student movement. Nowadays the politicians are short of information. It seems that with all these grassroots communities and over 400 parishes, the archbishop of Sao Paulo is someone who receives a constant flow of information, he is practically a liaison man. In 2 days the news of the entire city converges at the metropolitan curia and becomes available to the archbishop. This is good for the politicians who have few channels of information.

JORNAL DO BRASIL: How do you view the criticism made by some military officials and [presumably "against"] some bishops, primarily in the Amazon region?

Arns: We went to the Amazon region 100 years ahead of the army, of the government, of hospitals. We have been working there for a long time, in one way or another, with the people. Now why are there conflicts? I want to give you an example: We had conflicts during the periods in which General Humberto and General Ednardo [d'Avila Melo] commanded the 2d Army. We had conflicts because they were always recording our sermons; arresting priests, union leaders, and students; and were also torturing. Although we had conflicts one after the other, we kept on working. Then General Dilermando [Gomes Monteiro] was appointed 2d Army commander. He did not do anything; he merely let us act; he let us work. Time and again he asked me about my interpretation of some things. Then the people began to participate and the bishops and priests were with them. No one wanted disorders or divisions. The people started to assume a mature attitude; they began to discuss the cost of living and many serious issues, but there were no more conflicts and there was no need to arrest anyone. If they let us work there, a similar situation will become true in the Amazon region. Let the bishops work because they will greatly benefit the people. The people will be able to enjoy and defend their land: They will not be expelled from there; the only thing they will have to do is to appeal to the appropriate channels. The great solution will be to let those who love the people stay with them and assume with them the common destiny we all share.

JORNAL DO BRASIL: Why is the church's missionary action causing conflicts?

Arns: General Figueiredo [Euclides Figueiredo, commander of the 8th Military Region and brother of Joao Baptista Figueiredo] spoke as if a bishop were at the service of a general, while a bishop is only at the service of God and the people. For the love of God, a bishop is not at the service of any general. Thus, a general cannot judge a bishop's action, just as a bishop could never determine whether a general is a good cavalryman or good in any other function. Thus, a general should never tell a bishop he is a subversive, because the general would thus be going far beyond his jurisdiction, because a bishop is a specialist in matters dealing with orientation, while a general is not.

JORNAL DO BRAZIL: Do you feel that you are being restricted in your actions by security organizations?

Arns: Our actions hurt much more when they cause suffering to others. A few days ago I read that several persons were fired from a television station because of my action. The other day I was scheduled to speak on a television channel when the station received a message from the censors recommending that I not be on the air for reasons which were already known. In these cases, I feel as though I am causing other persons to suffer. I have never been sorry for any action, for any word I have spoken on behalf of common or political prisoners, of the families of those who are persecuted, despite the fact that I have been considered naive and the instrument of foreign ideologies. Indifference is the worst thing that can exist in a nation. Everyone should be conscientious of human rights and should dedicate their efforts to protecting them. I do not want to be considered a specialist in human rights. I even believe that I was a coward, that I should have done twice, 10 times more because many people suffered here. When the files on the 1968-1976 period are disclosed, Brazilians will be shocked.

JORNAL DO BRASIL: Why are you meeting with President Jimmy Carter? Why did the U.S. President decide to talk to you instead of the president of the National Conference of Brazilian Bishops or the primate of Brazil?

Arns: I met Carter for the first time at Notre Dame University. I like his personality, although I disapprove of many things in his policy. But he will not come to discuss Brazilian affairs with me because that would be absurd. Brazilian domestic matters are a challenge for Brazilians. I never thought of discussing Brazilian domestic affairs with outsiders. Yet, world problems are indeed common tasks, such as the problem of a new economic order, and that of interdependence among all nations. We will discuss these problems, including multinational companies and others, with President Carter. We will thoroughly discuss issues related to human rights. I do not believe he will want details because he has more reliable sources to obtain those details. I believe that he must be interested in promoting greater concern on the part of more people in this world, a world in which human rights are heavily violated.

JORNAL DO BRASIL: As a cardinal, what do you think you still have to do on behalf of the people of Sao Paulo and Brazil?

Arns: I believe I have not done anything yet. I am going to start now, little by little.

THREAT TO PRESS SEEN IN CURITIBA ARRESTS

PY211844Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 20 Mar 78 p 2 PY

["Castello's Column" by Carlos Castello Branco: "On the Risks of Listening to Colonels"]

[Excerpts] As the justice minister has nothing to say, it would be appropriate for the education minister to tell us something about the case of the schools in Curitiba in which, according to the police, 3- to 6-year old children were being indoctrinated to repudiate the Christian traditions of the Brazilian family and to practice Marxist-inspired subversion. Journalists, professors and various kinds of intellectuals were arrested, all of them belonging to a group which puzzles the security authorities, who see them as a constant threat to public order and to the integrity of the institutions under their custody.

Among those arrested in Curitiba--the exact number is not known, because the list does not include the name of a woman who is missing or who has been kidnaped, according to her relatives--is the reporter who recently interviewed Lt Col Tarcisio Ferreira in Ponta Grossa and who subsequently covered the repercussions of the interview. Also among the arrested are two persons whose names were included in the famous list of 97 subversives [working for the government] denounced by Gen Silvio Frota [former army minister dismissed in October 1977] to the nation's president.

The imprisonment of reporter Manfredini, who interviewed Lieutenant Colonel Ferreira, may be reasonable from the standpoint of security agents, but for us journalists his imprisonment sounds like a warning to anyone who may in the future listen to Colonels speaking on politics. We agree with the universally adopted doctrine that army officers, having submitted to rigid disciplinary regulations, must not speak on politics. In Brazil, however, army officers do so and nothing happens when they speak in favor of the government or in defense of the government's political positions. But when they speak against those political positions, they are surely punished. We have the impression that not only the army officers who speak against government policies are punished, but also the journalists who listen to them.

Regarding the two schools which operate openly with the approval of legal authorities, Education Minister Ney Braga, former and future governor of Parana State; is in a position to say something as to the nature of the educational experiment being conducted in those schools and as to the dangerous character of the persons who had been arrested without bothering with police investigations. After all, Curitiba has not grown that much, to the point that Minister Braga should no longer know the people who live there. As a good politician, Braga has knowledge of the people of his state, of its cities and at this very time he is going back to Parana as governor again, to insure an ARENA [National Renewal Alliance] electoral victory and to lead the people.

The government has lost some points in Parana; not only the government but all those who were nourishing hope for the process of gradual political relaxation which was expected to take a step forward with a reform plan which is expected at least to substantially reduce the degree of arbitrary actions on the government's part. The education minister could contribute by clarifying the situation and assuring tranquillity to journalists and intellectuals whose respect he would like to command in his future electoral barnstorming through the State of Parana.

FUTURE OF DEMOCRATIC REFORMS ANALYZED

FY210357Y Rio de Janeiro JOURNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 19 Mar 78 p 1 special section FY

[Article by Walder de Goes: "Figueiredo's Critical World"]

[Excerpts] The problems which are putting General Figueiredo's experience to the test are divided into those which must be taken care of right now and those which can be taken care of later. This division, however, is somewhat arbitrary because the problems are entangled. The future certainly will be shaped by the actions taken now. The main connecting line on which all or almost all will come to depend, between the present and the future, runs through the elections. The results of the 15 November elections will definitely influence the strategy for the 6-year term which lies ahead.

The general idea which introduces us to that question is very simple. Despite everything, the regime and the nation's president cannot survive without being representative. Under old and new pressures, however, the system of representation has lapsed into a crisis. The regime, in relation to society, and the presidency, in relation to the regime, now need to rearrange their links. There is the problem of relations with civilian society, manly with its elite. In some ways this problem affects the nation's Congress. There are relations between the president and the army within which the principle of rotation at the executive helm must be supported by popular representation. There are many other problems.

In that context the elections have a vital significance for General Figueiredo. An ARENA victory will provide the appropriate environment to reassemble the system of popular government which is now in crisis and, therefore, to put together a shield to protect his presidency. A defeat, on the contrary, will only worsen the crisis of the system of representative government, forcing General Figueiredo to perform delicate and complicated political maneuvers. In this sense, the will of the majority is political currency of fundamental usefulness in internal negotiations (within the system) and external negotiations (between the system and the rest of society) which will have to be conducted to bring about security for the regime and to stabilize the Figueiredo government within the regime.

It is only natural that General Figueiredo should be concerned about the political reforms to be made by President Geisel as promised. Influenced by his peculiar vision of the political problem and by the difficult balance of forces within the regime, President Geisel has not yet defined these reforms, has not yet been able to determine the degree to which they will be adequate and viable. He is still looking for formulas and arguments. This can be clearly gathered from his recent pronouncement on this subject. General Figueiredo is interested in the quick definition of the reform plan, because he would like to find inspiration in this plan to write his speech to the ARENA campaign banner. Furthermore, he wants to define more clearly his own political posture. For Figueiredo, therefore, the sooner the reforms to be enacted by Geisel are clarified, the better, so they may serve him as reference points.

General Figueiredo's concern with the elections involves the choice of state governors, so that the picture in the states will clear up and the cadres which will conduct the ARENA campaign will be known as quickly as possible. This intention motivated President Geisel to transfer to General Figueiredo the primary responsibility for making the pertinent decisions. This intention also prompted the presidential candidate to attach more importance to the political electoral weight of the future governors in making the choices. Geisel will participate in the campaign because the elections will also be a judgment of his government, but Figueiredo will take the frontline leadership. Figueiredo is therefore waiting for the party convention to be held, the new governors to be chosen and the reform plan to be worked out so that he may set in motion definite plans for leading the electoral campaign and to lay down the basis for his government.

Figueiredo has already decided to travel throughout the country to speak at ARENA meetings and to meet ARENA leaders. This will be an important point in his program for the next few months. According to people who met him recently, Figueiredo trusts that with a platform of political reforms and the prospect of ruling for a 6-year term, he will be able to overcome frictions which will inevitably stem from the election of governors and thus unite ARENA for the electoral battle. Availing himself of these very instruments in both Brasilia and in any other city he may visit, he will meet some civilian and military leaders who do not support, and others who dissent from, the government and try to talk them into a commitment for national conciliation. Through this effort, he will help ARENA and will set up the bases for efficiency.

There are other reasons stimulating Figueiredo to set up offices and thus to overcome major worries by taking care of immediate and more pressing matters. He must appoint, install, guide and put into motion a team which will advise him during the electoral campaign and which will prepare the programmatic bases of his government. This team will certainly be the basis of his future cabinet, of the second echelon of the government, even though it has already been decided that advisers will be recruited without any promises for the future. The primary duty of this team will be to see the best possible way of conducting Figueiredo's participation in the campaign, by converting into feasible courses of action the suggestions which are now flooding the office of the SNI [National Intelligence Service] chief.

The candidate has not yet made clear his ideas on how he intends to promote economic development so as to reconcile the latter with the country's social and political development. He has general ideas which must be specifically formulated. The advisory team, under his guidance, will take care of this. One of Figueiredo's major ideas on this matter is that it will be necessary to simplify government procedures. Many of those who have met him say he is convinced that there is an excessive number of plans and lines of action, many of them without financial support, others of low priority, and others technically not feasible. Another basic idea which must be improved and formulated , deals with the centralization of the decisionmaking process. Figueiredo wants to decentralize this process, either by making new arrangements within the framework of the federal government, or by partially restoring autonomy to both states and municipalities through a careful tax reform and a delegation of powers.

The Figueiredo administration will consider the problem of regional imbalances, and this perhaps may become, in the opinion of those who met Figueiredo, a central point in his administrative platform. The policymakers will be encouraged to find the best solutions which, without jeopardizing the dynamism of the economy of the center-south metropolitan region, may be instrumental in creating development centers [eixos de desenvolvimento] which would decentralize the sources of jobs in the country and which would reduce the present rate of migration into large cities. This is perhaps a major challenge to be faced by the planners of Figueiredo's platform in the administrative field. The objective would be to create development centers--the expression "development poles" is avoided--in economically poor regions, such as the northeast, the Amazon region, and the center-west region, without affecting the existing profit system, without stimulating inflation and without furthering the dispersive effects of the development process, so as to ease interregional tensions. The objective would be to obtain additional investments, perhaps on the basis of replacement of imports, without depleting the resources of the center-south region. It would be some sort of war economy without a war.

The marketing mechanism will certainly draw the attention of the policymakers. General Figueiredo recently expressed his amazement at the profit made by middlemen in the distribution of primary products. An experiment was made by following an egg from production source to consumption and it showed that corrections in this area will greatly aid the inflation control policy, so as to permit monetary expansion which will allow the creation of regional development centers. Efforts should also be made to link a marketing policy for agricultural products with a policy for expansion of agricultural production. Increasing agricultural production will be a primary objective, aiming both at the internal and export markets, but achieving this objective will be difficult, particularly in the allocation of both capital and technology. Improvements in the middlemen links could however make possible more liberal price policies which, with the accrued benefits to farmers, could facilitate the expansion of production.

Another area of concern for General Figueiredo, according to his latest visitors, is the problem of poverty in large urban centers. Calculations are that 4 years hence, when new direct elections will be held, 70 to 80 percent of the Brazilian population will live in urban centers. Increasing social disorganization, overtaking the level of urban improvements, leads one to suppose that the quality of urban living, which is already critical, will tend to decline even more.. The current situation of city life, beset by problems, from deterioration of the physical environment to the increasing size of the transient population, is already considered unbearable and negatively influences the overall development of society.

The climate of opinion created by the advisers and consultants around General Figueiredo tends to consider the political institutional problem as the most serious, urgently requiring creative reforms. The recognition that none of the nation's problems will be solved without the positive mobilization of all social classes is gaining ground. Of course this mobilization depends on providing room for those classes to act and to contribute through mechanisms of mediation among those classes themselves and between those classes and the regime.

JORNAL LEERY OF INCREASED TRADE WITH EAST EUROPE

PY2100183Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 19 Mar 78 p 10 PY

[Editorial: "Toward the East"]

[Excerpt] The question of Brazil's expanding its business with East Europe has come up again. This question seems to be following a cycle. It comes and goes according to whether the ideology of state economic control, which draws together the world's state bureaucratic systems, is being emphasized or deemphasized. The latest manifestation of this fact came from Itamaraty. Alleging the need to create alternatives to the relations with the United States in the area of fishing, last Wednesday the possibility of encouraging the formation of joint ventures between Brazil and East European countries was admitted, with the purpose of catching shrimp off our northern coast.

The experience with joint ventures consists, basically, of the transfer of technology from foreign to national enterprises in exchange for foreign participation in the capital of the enterprise so created. If this idea is implemented regarding East Europe, what kind of technology will we get? Who can guarantee that Brazilian entrepreneurs, who were not even consulted about these joint ventures, will be interested in acquiring fishing technology from the Soviets, Bulgarians or Romanians? We can then suppose that Itamaraty is planning the takeover of the Brazilian fishing industry by the state.

Everybody knows, including the Brazilian bureaucrats, that the economic relations of Brazil with East Europe suffer from a structural rigidity. The total balance accumulated in Brazil's favor is currently estimated at $1.1 billion, partly in currency which is good only for accounting purposes. East Europe has become an inexhaustible vault of lopsided balances in Brazil's favor. The most balanced trade is maintained with Poland, thanks to long-term contracts made by the Vale do Rio Doce Company [iron ore mining and exporting company] and SIDERBRAS [Brazilian iron and steel state-owned corporation] to trade Brazilian iron ore for Polish steelmaking-quality coal. But this is the only case. We have lots of goods to sell to these countries, but almost nothing to buy from them.

The accumulation of Brazilian surpluses creates pressures to artificially produce, by forcing us to buy what we do not need, a trade balance which is useful for the expansion of business. And this means only that our trade relations with these countries have already reached or surpassed the maximum level of their possibilities.

This insistence on trading with East Europe can be traced to ideologies that, even while diverting useful energy from commercially more promising areas, want to transform the conduct of our trade policy into material for a mammoth-sized bureaucracy which hinders the country's economic and political development.

The signs of failure of our policy toward East Europe are clear. Brazil has bought from the Soviet Union $5.8 million worth of oil, but part of this oil had to come from Iraq because of questions related to the specifications of the product and its freight. We caved in under Soviet pressure because of the huge Brazilian surplus in our bilateral trade. The oil comes from the Middle East, but the money goes to the Soviet Union, because if we do not accept this kind of arrangement, the Soviets will stop buying from Brazil. Following the Soviet example, the Hungarians came over last February to show us the increasing figures of their deficit and to demand that we import from them machinery which is also available in the domestic market or which has already been bought from markets which maintain more stable trade with the Brazilian private sector. The same attitude is being adopted by the GDR which is dissatisfied with its deficit and which wants Brazil to import more potassium chloride, industrial boilers, heavy machinery and optical apparatus, that is, products which the Brazilian industry manufactures already.

The structural rigidity in our economic relations with the East European countries is caused mainly by Brazil's inability to import because of a lack of complementary technology. After all, the whole Brazilian productive system hinges on Western technology, which is being transferred to Brazil and which is several notches better than the East European technical knowhow. Nevertheless, even if it were possible to solve this problem, it would not be easy to awaken the interest of the Brazilian private sector in stepping up deals with these markets.

PANEL MEETS ON DEMARCATION OF VENEZUELAN BORDER

PY2103227Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 18 Mar 79 p 3 PY

[Excerpt] Brasilia--The Brazilian-Venezuelan Joint Border Demarcation Commission yesterday ended at Itamaraty its 44th meeting, in which a work program was prepared for erecting more landmarks in a 60-km segment along the Pacaraima Mountains.

The Brazilian-Venezuelan border was fully demarcated in 1973, when a map indicating the trace of the border line was made. This inland border line is approximately 2,200 km long. The joint commission is now engaged in the task of erecting more border markers, having erected 662 markers thus far.

Caracas and Manaus are the major centers of the Venezuelan-Brazilian border region. This region includes Amazon state and Roraima territory in Brazil, and Bolivar department and Amazon territory in Venezuela.

FORMATION OF SOCIALIST PARTY PLANNED IN SAO PAULO

PY2018015Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1446 GMT 20 Mar 79 PY

[Text] Sao Paulo, 20 Mar--600 people met last night to set the basis for the formation of a Brazilian socialist party which, according to one of the organizers of the meeting, must include most representative sectors of Brazilian society. The party would struggle for freedom of speech and organization and for the direct election of state governors and of the president, he added. Once officially established, the socialist party intends to campaign for a broad amnesty for all those who have had their political or civil rights annulled by exceptional acts.

GENERAL SAYS SITUATION ON BOLIVIAN BORDER 'NORMAL'

PY2119047 Paris AFP in Spanish 1520 GMT 21 Mar 78 PY

[Excerpt] Arica, Chile, 21 Mar--Chilean Gen Guillermo Toro Davila reaffirmed here today that the presence of Chilean troops on the Bolivian border is to protect Chilean sovereignty. General Toro Davila, commander of the 6th Division, stationed in Arica, 2,050 km north of Santiago, noted that the "situation in the area is normal." He added: "The presence of Chilean troops in the border area is a permanent condition which had been established to protect our sovereignty."

LEIGH OUTLINES FUTURE POLITICAL COURSE

PY2122207 Paris AFP in Spanish 2040 GMT 21 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 21 Mar--The commander of the Chilean Air Force, Gen Gustavo Leigh, today expressed important points regarding "the reestablishment of justice in Chile. "We believe that justice can only be achieved within a state where the law reigns as the only regulating norm of collective life," he added.

Leigh, who is also a member of the military government junta, made this remark in a speech during the ceremonies of the 48th anniversary of the Chilean Air Force (FACH). Leigh added: "I believe that the material and spiritual greatness of the fatherland can only be achieved within an atmosphere of justice, precisely where the idea of a legal state is to be found which presupposes a legal and impersonal order, the norms of which, inspired in their higher sense of justice, are imposed equally on those who govern and those who are governed." He also maintained that "I recall that the air force answered the commitment of reestablishing the institutionality (in Chile) which had been damaged by the former government, but I believe that to achieve such a noble objective it is necessary to give the country adequate and appropriate institutions."

He then emphasized that "these institutions cannot be created without taking into account the reality and the manner of being, living and thinking of the Chileans. "These institutions must be linked to a social reality which cannot be modified simply with laws," he added.

He then explained the characteristics which, in his judgment, should be considered for the new Chilean political structure. Among them he mentioned: "Independence of the courts; the right of Chileans to participate in decisions which determine their political future; the separation of the traditional powers of the state with the necessary modifications or adaptations; the right of Chileans to be informed and to inform; and the achievement, within institutional order, of solid bases for social protection." Leigh indicated that "these ideas are a way of being consistent with the principles which inspire the military movement of 11 September 1973."

Leigh made it clear that "we are fully aware that it is not possible to return to the traditional democracy of the West with its virtues and defects. "But yes, we Chileans will know how to achieve the formulas which will permit us to continue living in peace, order and social harmony," he said.

JUDGE TURNS LETELIER CASE OVER TO MILITARY COURT

PY220037Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0025 GMT 22 Mar 78 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 21 Mar--Special judge Marcos Libedinsky today declared himself incompetent to continue investigating the participation of two Chilean civilians in the murder of former Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier. The judge indicated that his decision was based on the fact that the suspects are under military jurisdiction and therefore any future investigation must be carried out by the military court. The judge added that his court has ordered that all background collected so far be forwarded to the military court.

DINA CHIEF FROM TIME OF LETELIER DEATH QUITS POST

PY212132Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2120 GMT 21 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 21 Mar--According to an official report released today, Brig Gen Manuel Contreras Sepulveda, head of the National Intelligence Directorate at the time when the former Chilean foreign minister was murdered in Washington, resigned his current post today. General Sepulveda, who was relieved as chief of the Chilean secret police last October, was serving as commander of the Army Corps of Engineers. This information was released by the public relations department of the army, which indicated that the officer had presented his resignation and it had been accepted. The reason for this resignation is so far unknown.

MINISTER BRADY DISCUSSES TALKS WITH PERUVIANS

PY210227Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2018 GMT 20 Mar 78 PY

[Text] Arica, Chile, 20 Mar--Deputy Commander of the Army Maj Gen Carlos Forestier Haensgen will travel to Lima next month at the special invitation of Peruvian War Minister Gen Oscar Molina Pallochia.

The information was released by Chilean Defense Minister Gen Hermann Brady at the conclusion of a meeting with his Peruvian colleague. The Chilean defense minister also indicated that a delegation of artillery officers will also travel to Peru to participate in the ceremonies of the anniversary of Artillery Day.

General Brady expressed his full satisfaction concerning the meeting "because it was held in a cordial atmosphere where a high spirit of brotherhood reigned. "I am very satisfied and content with the result of this meeting. Its objectives were fully achieved and our ties of friendship were strengthened, which will always keep us closely tied," he added.

BRIEFS

SPANISH CREDIT GRANTED--Santiago, Chile, 15 Mar--Col Sergio Perez, Chilean economy under secretary, reported at the beginning of the meetings of the joint Chilean-Spanish Economic Commission that Spain will grant Chile a line of credit for $110 million for the purchase of capital assets and machinery. Miguel Solano Azua, Spanish under secretary for foreign affairs, indicated that trade between the two countries has tripled during the last 2 years. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0453 GMT 16 Mar 78 PY]

LOPEZ MICHELSEN DEFENDS PUBLIC WORKS MINISTER

PA211947Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Mar 78 PA

[Text] President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen has again vigorously defended his public works minister, Humberto Salcedo Collantes, suggesting that the press abstain from passing judgment on him until it is better informed. He expressed his certainty that Colombians want the projects planned by his government to continue.

Lopez Michelsen said he had heard there was a plan afoot to bring down the public works minister, as if it were a regional or political cause. The government, the president said, understands, as the people will understand, that it is not right to ask for the resignation of Minister Salcedo Collantes without having heard his side. Nor can it be demanded that his situation be aggravated. [as heard]

The president again attacked the major liberal newspapers for their hostile attitude toward Public Works Minister Humberto Salcedo Collantes, reminding the newspapers that their editorial writers took quite a different tack 9 years ago when the agriculture minister in the Lleras Restrepo administration was involved in a big scandal.

Lopez Michelsen told the newspapers that they acted very differently 9 years ago when they took the opposite stand regarding the procedures which should be followed to try a minister. He noted that in that case, the newspapers defended the minister's right to be heard and even argued that he was innocent. Lopez Michelsen asked the liberal newspapers not to take one stand one time and the opposite stand another time according to how they feel because, as the Bible says, "as you judge so shall you be judged."

Lopez Michelsen added that his promise of providing one more kilowatt of energy for every vote cast for him in the 1974 elections is being fulfilled. He said that before he leaves the presidency there will be over 3 million new kilowatts at the service of Colombia.

He was speaking in Sincelejo where he inaugurated several electric distribution networks, and predicted that by the year 2000 the country may have its own atomic power plant thanks to the uranium deposits located in the north and south Santander departments and eastern Llanos and Huila department, deposits which are beginning to be exploited under his administration.

I tell you, he said, that my government, the government of peasants and farmers, has shared the destiny of every peasant: He is poor, works from dawn until dusk, but leaves an enormous legacy. With these worlds the chief of state ended his speech.

In the afternoon he was expected in Tolu Viejo, where he will inaugurate several regional projects.

GOVERNMENT DECREES NATIONWIDE ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN

PA220258Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 0030 GMT 22 Mar 78 PA

[Excerpt] The Ecuadorean Government has decreed the beginning of an intensive campaign to control drugs throughout the country. Government Information Secretary Fabian Garces Cardera revealed the points discussed during a cabinet meeting presided over by the Supreme Council of Government. His statements to the press were as follows:

[begin recording] It was decided to wage a campaign against drug use and trafficking throughout the country. The cabinet approved the following measures:

1. Establishment of legal procedures so that the Government Ministry has greater means for vigilance and intervention in order to eradicate this evil.
2. Establishment of legal procedures to attain [word indistinct] in proceedings and judgments.
3. Review of laws against drug trafficking in order to make them more severe.
4. Reinforcement of police with arms and materials to better wage the campaign to eradicate drug trafficking and use.
5. Conducting the police campaign in a continuous manner so as to insure the success of this effort.
6. Elimination of deficient elements in organizations fighting drug trafficking.
7. Recommend that judicial sectors act promptly, honestly and efficiently in trials related to this matter.
8. Recommend to the Supreme Court of Justice to reopen cases whenever permitted by law.
9. Reassert the country's support to the decisions of the Sixth Inter-American Council of Government Ministries held in Quito 2 months ago.
10. Promote the creation of a technical judicial police and attempt to have police reports accepted as evidence at trials.
11. Amend the legal code and penal procedures for the same purpose.

The Supreme Council of Government decreed the creation of commissions so that the above decisions be carried out as soon as possible, because there was agreement that drug use and trafficking [words indistinct] of the countries in the world. [end recording]

MINISTER SAYS RETURN PROCESS NOW UP TO CIVILIANS

PA220327Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 0030 GMT 22 Mar 78 PA

[Text] The armed forces and the Supreme Council of Government have done their share regarding the plan to return to a constitutional regime. It is now up to the civilian sectors to do their part, Government Minister Col Bolivar Jarrin Cahuenas said during a ceremony hosted by police commissioners. He said that the process of return will not be interrupted except for the actions of sectors unable to adjust to historical circumstances. He added that considerable progress has been made in the process in spite of suspicions, distortions and distrust. The armed forces and the Supreme Council, he added, have shown their sincere desire to return Ecuador to constitutional life. We have fulfilled our part, now it is up to the civilian sectors to do theirs. As far as we are concerned, the minister said, the process will not be interrupted in any manner. However, he warned that if any interruption takes place, it will be because of sectors which have failed to adjust to historical circumstances.

INTERIOR MINISTER DISPARAGES BELAUNDE ATTITUDE ON ELECTIONS

PA212219Y Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 16 Mar 78 p 3 PA

[Text] Interior Minister Div Gen Luis Cisneros Vizquerra attributed little significance to the attitude assumed by former President Belaunde Terry, who said he will not run for the Constituent Assembly unless the armed forces joint command guarantees the sovereignty of that organization and the holding of free elections.

"It appears that he (Belaunde) does not wish to head the Popular Actions list. He, who has been president of the republic, knows better than anyone else that the government and the armed forces constitute a whole and that the joint command is part of that whole," General Cisneros explained. He stated that "therefore, such an attitude is senseless."

Referring to Belaunde's opinion that the Constituent Assembly will be "centralized, divisive and dilatory," the minister replied: "That is precisely an example of the freedom of speech that prevails in the country."

He also denied the possibility of an electoral fraud in June and said that such a term has already been discarded by the government. "We expect it will disappear altogether." He commented that fraud is a term often used in political jargon. He stated, however, that the official communique on amnesty released yesterday discredits the term fraud.

Cisneros Vizquerra made these statements yesterday at the Jorge Chavez International Airport where he went to receive Foreign Minister Jose de la Puente Radbill, who returned from an official mission to Europe.

LEFTIST POLITICAL GROUPS CRITICIZE AP ELECTION ARSTENTION

PA192314Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1952 GMT 19 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 19 Mar (LATIN)--Leaders of leftist political groups have said that the Popular Action [AP] Party's abstention from the Constituent Assembly elections is a "coupist maneuver," according to a survey made by the newspaper LA PRENSA. At the same time, the powerful Peruvian Apra Party [PAP] and the Peruvian Democratic Movement [MDP] "deplored" the desertion of the AP, which is headed by former President Fernando Belaunde Terry, who was deposed in a military coup in 1968.

The election for the 100-member assembly will be held 4 June. A total of 12 political groups will participate and they have announced a total of 1,200 candidates. Jorge del Prado, president of the Peruvian Communist Party [PCP], said that AP's abstention "favors a coupist tendency." "It is responding to a desire to return to the past, even through a coup d'etat... They would be pleased, that is their public position," he added.

The secretary general of the Socialist Revolutionary Party [PSR], Antonio Meza Cuadra, said that "One cannot ignore the fact that the attitude conceals an intention consistent with the political statements of Fernando Belaunde to promote a coup by the most repressive forces.

Genaro Ledesma, leader of the Popular, Worker, Peasant and Student Front [FOCEP], said: "By withdrawing to the comfortable position of spectator at a time when it is the mission of every party to fight in the political arena for the interests of the people, the flight of AP smells of cowardice."

The secretary general of the PAP, Ramiro Priale, said that "The nonparticipation of such an important party as the AP is deplorable. The democratic contest will be restricted."

Javier Ortiz de Zevallos of the MDP said that "Our party deplores that the constituent assembly will be deprived of the valuable participation of the AP because it would have been a solid support in upholding the democratic postulates and stopping the totalitarian offensive."

Belaunde Terry said that AP's abstention was due to a "lack of guarantees" that the Constituent Assembly would have "sovereignty and autonomy" and affirmed that it will be "an appendage of the military government."

'FINAL' ATTEMPT TO UNITE ULTRALEFTISTS FAILS

PA171335Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0308 GMT 17 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 16 Mar (AFP)--A final attempt to unite the extreme left for the coming Constituent Assembly elections failed here last night when two ultraleftist organizations, the Popular, Student, Peasant and Worker Front (FOCEP) and the Popular Democratic Union (UDP), tried in vain to agree on a single slate.

The two organizations had obtained a 3-hour extention from the National Electoral Tribunal in order to try to draft the single slate. Just 10 minutes before the deadline for the presentation of candidates, the FOCEP announced that it will participate in the elections on its own, charging that a communist faction did not want to ally itself with the Trotskyite groups. The UDP later registered its candidates.

With these registrations, a total of 1,200 candidates from 12 organizations will compete for the 100 seats in the Constituent Assembly that will be elected by 5 million Peruvians on 4 June.

APS BARRED FROM PARTICIPATION IN ELECTIONS

PA171456Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0315 GMT 16 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 15 Mar (AFP)--The National Electoral Tribunal (JNE) ruled here today that the Socialist Popular Action Party (APS) will not participate in the coming Constituent Assembly elections.

The country's top electoral authority sustained a complaint presented by the Popular Action Party, which supports former President Fernando Belaunde, to the effect that the APS' name could confuse voters.

The JNE said that the law forbids the use of names that allude to persons or institutions and that not only is the APS a splinter faction of the Popular Action Party, but its name also alludes to that organization.

Mario Villaran, leader of the challenged organization, said that the ruling "is a source of shame for the country." The JNE's decision cannot be appealed.

On the other hand, the JNE accepted the registration of the Socialist Revolutionary Party, rejecting a challenge presented against it.

As a result of these decisions, 12 parties will participate in the 4 June elections to elect 100 members of the Constituent Assembly.

EL COMERCIO COUNTERS OBJECTIONS TO IMF RECOMMENDATIONS

PA211707Y Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 13 Mar 78 p 2 PA

[Editorial: "The IMF and Peru's Economy"]

[Text] The development of economic processes does not depend on anyone's whims or good will. Economics has its laws, and anyone who thinks realistically will say that what is done in a capitalistic or socialistic system conforms to economic principles. To apply a socialist formula to a capitalist country in order to remedy its problems amounts to trying to inject solutions which are not only different but which are rejected by definition and essence.

In connection with the economic and financial disarray suffered by our country, together with all other underdeveloped countries, as result of the crisis shaking the highly developed, capitalist countries, it has been suggested in various political sectors that the Peruvian Government confront the IMF and tell that organization what it intends to do instead of bending to the IMF recommendations. What is most noteworthy in this case is that this suggestion comes both from the oligarchic flank and its political spokesmen and from the leftist flank and the leaders of its various parties. That the leftists (extreme or not) should advise breaking with the worldwide organizations of the capitalist system means only that they are asking for one sector what they ask for the whole: the socialization of Peru. From a socialist viewpoint this is logical.

But what is absurd is that the members of the right (avowedly capitalist not only in principle but in material possessions, including means of production) should propose that Peru now do what they themselves never did during the "innumerable" times they held political power, and we say "innumerable" in order not to say forever, ever since the minor emancipation of the 19th century.

We could cite cases of Latin American countries which challenged the IMF, rejected its recommendations, and then, willingly or otherwise, did accept them. Argentina, Colombia, Uruguay, Bolivia and Haiti, among others, are old and recent examples in this connection. Let us cite what happened when Carlos Lleras Restrepo was president of Colombia (1966-1970). At first he opposed the measures advised by the IMF. Then in April of 1967 he had to accept them, increasing the price of gasoline, partially freezing salaries and establishing monetary controls. Something similar happened in Uruguay after the death of the democratic president, Gestido, (who devalued the peso 4 times in addition to 3 other devaluations made in 1967 by the collegiate National Council government) when an uncontrollable crisis occurred.

Our country's economy is subordinate to that of industrialized nations whose price systems are reflected by our like precision clockwork. This pressure dries up the sources of internal savings and, as a result, investment. It stands in the way of a policy of increased employment and causes unemployment and inflation. We can remember the monetary devaluation, fuel price hikes, taxes and unemployment when Pedro Beltran Espantoso was prime minister and finance minister (1959). Inflation leads to a struggle among economic sectors (agrarian, industrial, commercial and service), with each one trying to escape its effects. For this reason we see not only that industry is partially idle but that the agrarian sector, with reforms and all, shows both employment stagnation and labor migration and other types of make-work employment.

The fact is that the prescription of increasing the cost of living of the poor proportionally more than that of other sectors cannot be satisfactory.

This should oblige spokesmen for political parties (now involved in preelectoral activities) to come out not with demagogic accusations but with specific plans for viable remedies. The people have experience with great promises, including short term ones similar to bank promissory notes for so many and so many days, which were never fulfilled. This is no way to find a solution.

VISITING ECUADOREAN NAVY CHIEF DECORATED

PA182308Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1644 GMT 17 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 17 Mar (AFP)--Vice Adm Renan Olmedo, chief of operations of the Ecuadorean Navy, last night received the decoration of the Great Cross for Naval Merit as a demonstration of Peruvian-Ecuadorean fraternity. The decoration was awarded by Peruvian Navy Minister Vice Adm Jorge Parodi in the presence of Aeronautics Minister Gen Jorge Tamayo; Gen Pedro Richter, chief of the Armed Forces Joint Command; and several ministers. Vice Admiral Parodi emphasized the similarity of interests of the two countries and the common objectives to be attained at the present time. He said that the two countries and their navies must strengthen the ideals which lead them toward a common goal.

Parodi added that recalling the birth of the two countries as independent nations contributes to "bringing us closer to the common purpose of our day and is a demonstration of how Latin American integration is not based on economic interests but is within the soul of our peoples." Finally, he said that he will continue to strengthen the permanent ties of friendship between Peru and Ecuador as well as the fraternal ties which unite the two navies.

Vice Admiral Olmedo, who concludes his visit to Peru tomorrow, Saturday, expressed his thanks for the decoration, saying that "It demonstrates the spirit of integration and fraternity between Peru and Ecuador."

OILFIELD FOUND UNDER THREE STATES, TO U.S. BORDER

FL151405Y Merida Radio Yucatan Network in Spanish 1245 GMT 15 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Veracruz--Technicians have located a petroleum field which extends through the states of Veracruz, Tamaulipas and Nuevo Leon to the border with the United States and the southeastern part of the State of Coahuila to depths of from 4,000 to 5,000 meters. This area was superficially looted until 1938 by Netherlands, British and North American corporations.

PEMEX DIRECTOR REPORTS ON COUNTRY'S PETROLEUM SITUATION

FL190002Y Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish to ANSA Buenos Aires 2125 GMT 18 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Poza Rica, Veracruz, Mexico, 18 Mar (ANSA-INFORMEX)--Eng Jorge Diaz Serrano, director of Mexican Petroleum (PEMEX)--in his report today to President Lopez-Portillo on work in the 1977-78 period at the ceremony commemorating the 40th anniversary of petroleum expropriation--stated that by the end of the current 6-year period [1976-82], proven petroleum reserves, which presently are at 16 billion barrels, will be 30 billion.

At the moment our proven, probable and potential reserves reach 120 billion barrels and the increase achieved in probable reserves in 1977 was 4.8 billion barrels, which is equal to nine times the total produced, or the amount used in Mexico plus the volume of and products exported. [as received]

The accelerated work rate has made it possible that the level established for 1982 production of 2.25 billion barrels daily be reached by 1980, with the consequent economic benefit for the country.

The PEMEX director stated that the increase in reserves has been achieved in only 13 months which constitutes one of the most important economic successes for the country so far this century.

The speech was marked by loud ovations in a big auditorium filled to capacity. Diaz Serrano stated that based on what is known for certain about the Mexican subsoil, they are exploring and finding reserves to be utilized by future generations in the 21st century, because petroleum to be consumed by Mexico in the present century and 26 years afterward has already been found. Therefore, he insisted that petroleum and gas exploitation be carried out with conservation. We will be protected from shortages even after the world petroleum era has ended.

For this reason, he stressed, if we begin to assure ourselves of surpluses, we would be burdened by economic emergencies, which a type of irrational greed and technical primitivism would prevent us from solving. And he added: Either we produce the petroleum now, right now, without any delays and childish fears, using it to the extent our efforts and intelligence allows us, so that we will be truly self-sufficient and sovereign, or very shortly we will regret not have been equal to the historical moment at which we are living.

He also reported that in 1977 new field discoveries included 26 petroleum (17 oil, and 9 gas), along with the extension of 4 producing fields. The most important ones were the gasfields in Lampazos, Nuevo Leon State and Monclova and Ulua in Coahuila State--which for the first time in the history of our industry produces hydrocarbons in commercial quantity from outside the gulf coast plain.

The production of crude and liquid gas increased by 27.7 percent from December 1976 to December 1977, which represents 260,000 barrels per day. The average daily production of gas was 2,046 billion cubic feet and of crude was 1,085,550 barrels.

During the year the system's refineries processed 835,550 barrels per day, which represents a 12.7-percent increase in relation to last year. Basic petrochemical production was 4.2 million tons with a total value of (?1).8 billion pesos, an increase of 44 percent in relation to last year. PEMEX plans to export 16 percent of its refined [products] and 17 percent of its basic petrochemical [products] through the year 1982.

PEMEX sales in the country during 1977 exceeded 53 billion pesos, which represents a 37.5-percent increase. Exports were on the order of 23.4 billion pesos, 234 percent [as received] more than that in 1976. The volume exported averaged out to 206,500 barrels per day, of which 4,500 were refined products. PEMEX had a favorable trade balance of 18.6 billion pesos.

Diaz Serrano dealt with figures nobody had thought about. For example, he announced that a study on production flow for the institution's 6-year period shows that total receipts will be 1.371 trillion pesos, equal to almost 18 times the receipts for 1977. Meanwhile, total operating expenditures, excluding federal taxes, will amount to 328 billion, equal to only eight times the expenditures for last year.

It has been said, he stated, that PEMEX will always be indebted because of investments to increase production. There can be nothing farther from the truth. By the end of 1979 our receipts will become greater than our expenses including new investments. We can say with great satisfaction that by the end of the 6-year period we will have reduced the institution's total [expenses] by 20 billion pesos.

He stated that the gas pipeline construction is 23 percent ahead of schedule, and he justified its construction and emphasized: A task that the petroleum industry, the Mexican industry and the country as a whole dearly require without delay should not be maligned by false slogans. It is very difficult to build but on the other hand it is very easy to obstruct and even easier to destroy. A fallacy can be uttered in 10 seconds but it takes years to erase it, and longer if the interests are economic. The results obtained by Mexican workers and technicians over 40 years deserve an expression of support from the Mexican people. We ask for it with the tranquility of men who know that they are patriotically performing their work and their duty.

Oscar Pancardo, secretary general of the Mexican National Oil Workers Union, also spoke. He stated that just as 40 years ago Mexico had its first opportunity to become economically independent, today we celebrate the reality of a people assuming its historical responsibility and entering, without fear, the threshhold of its destiny.

Of course they paid tribute to the author of the expropriation, Gen Lazaro Cardenas.

TORRIJOS, AIDES STUDYING U.S. SENATE'S TREATY AMENDMENTS

PA211520Y Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 21 Mar 78 pp 1, 14 PA

[Article by Luis Castilla Bravo]

[Text] Without making any sort of public statement in reply to the U.S. Senate, Panamanian Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera and his chief aides have been meeting in permanent session since Friday to assess the extent of the well-known Senate amendments, particularly the DeConcini amendment [as published], and the reservations established by the U.S. Senate to the treaty on neutrality signed by the United States and Panama.

As may be recalled, Panama approved a "package" of two documents that make up the treaties on the Panama Canal. Both were intimately linked and therefore subject to a single condition: the disappearance on 31 December 1999 of the last Yankee boot from our national territory.

These documents, submitted to the Senate's scrutiny after being signed by President Carter, underwent minute and thorough consideration by that august chamber but did so in reverse, that is, instead of first analyzing the document that indicates the end of the Hay-Bunau Varilla Treaty and sets a date for the end of U.S. presence on that part of the territory, the Senate ratified the second part, which is practically military in nature.

General Torrijos indicated on the same day the Senate was voting that under no circumstance would he accept amendments that injure national dignity. On his part, Carter has said that these amendments do not affect the spirit of the treaty, but the senators have already begun to express serious concern since, in the opinion of some of them, the treaty has been violated.

Although the national and foreign press has attempted to penetrate into the residence on 50th Street owned by the chief of government's economic adviser, where the permanent sessions are taking place, all efforts have been futile.

It has been learned behind the scenes that General Torrijos, in addition to consulting with his main advisory team, is also consulting the main leaders of the world before giving an official reply. On the other hand, in yesterday's session, the Senate began to show concern regarding Panama's reaction since up to now there has only been quiet, and quiet generally comes before the storm.

Robert P. Griffin, for example, one of the treaties' main opponents, said yesterday that he could not understand how the senators could vote in favor of one of the treaties and against the other. "As I see it," he pointed out, "the two of them constitute a whole."

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS DISCUSS TREATY RATIFICATION PROCESS

PA211630Y Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 21 Mar 78 p 24 PA

[From "La Llorona" column]

[Text] Aristides Royo, Adolfo Ahumada, Perez Valladares, Rory Gonzalez, Ambassador Lewis Galindo and Foreign Minister Gonzalez Revilla make up the group of ranking state officials headed by Vice President Gerardo Gonzalez who left Paitilla Airport yesterday for Farallon, presumably to discuss the course taken by the treaty ratification process in the U.S. Senate.

COLUMNIST CALLS FOR UNITY IN FACE OF TREATY CHANGES

PA212208" Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 21 Mar 78 p 6-A PA

["Conciencia Publica" column by Miguel Angel Moreno Gongora: "Unity and Sorrow of the Fatherland"]

[Text] The voting on the neutrality treaty and the reservations, understandings and amendments adopted show how wrong were those who once thought that President Carter's political ability and the Senate's respect for him were in direct proportion to his self-esteem and Christian good faith toward Panama. Circumstances turned out to be against him. In the eyes of U.S., Panamanian and world public opinion, his personal prestige and political stature have been dealt a serious blow. They have been very seriously wounded.

President Carter has to be either naive, very blind or very insincere not to realize that the final result of what occurred in the Senate at 1630 on 16 March does not represent the Panamanian people's aspirations and is not in keeping with the promises he made to the world that justice would prevail for Panama.

In view of the imminence of an adverse vote and seeing himself weak and incapable of fulfilling his promises and predictions regarding the voting, the U.S. President had to make concessions to senators in one group or the other. In the end, these concessions resulted in a treaty patched, scratched out and rough drafted against Panamanian interests because it grants the United States the right to reserve for itself the interpretation and acceptance or rejection of situations that will be humiliating for Panama because they distort the objectives of the treaty, confirm and reaffirm perpetuity, make acceptable the right to intervene in our domestic affairs and prevent us from fully exercising our sovereignty even after we physically recover the canal, as we will demonstrate shortly.

The Panamanians' votes for the treaties were aimed at responding affirmatively to a question concerning the text of the documents that were later submitted to the Senate. That was the will of the majority, that was the watchword and that was what our sovereign people consented to. We may or may not have agreed with the treaties, but as Panamanians and in the face of the accomplished fact, the only thing left for us to do was to wish that the voting would favor the bright destiny of our national greatness. Nonetheless, this was not the case because in a new demonstration of secular imperialism the senators of both parties adulterated the contents of the treaty, making it unacceptable to every good Panamanian. From the standpoint of international law, our public laws and honest diplomacy, this simply and clearly means that the treaty has been virtually rejected because it definitely is not what we Panamanians voted for.

The amendments, reservations, understandings and interpretations--terms under which the adulterations that the senators included in the treaty are euphemistically masked--automatically lead to its rejection because they render ineffective the will of the Panamanian people as set forth in the October plebiscite.

Now that the text of the treaty has been changed, we must begin a new stage of negotiations. The results of these negotiations must later be subjected to a new plebiscite in accordance with the constitution, which establishes that any treaty regarding the canal, its adjacent zones, the canal's protection, or the construction of a new sea-level canal or a third set of locks will be subjected to a national plebiscite.

We must face this new stage in our national suffering with unity and patriotism and with serenity and prudence. In particular, the government leaders must avoid all prejudices, malice or reservation toward those that oppose it, because those opponents are above all Panamanians as patriotic as they are. They feel the fatherland's sorrows with the same intensity.

CLOSE ANALYSIS OF TREATY MODIFICATIONS URGED

PA1719Z1Y Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 17 Mar 78 p 4 PA

[Editorial: "The U.S. Senate and the Neutrality Treaty"]

[Text] The U.S. Senate yesterday took a stand regarding the "Treaty for the Permanent Neutrality and Operation of the Panama Canal" in ways and in terms which have already been disseminated by the various media and which we have covered in our reporting section. We now have to wait for the debate on the "Panama Canal Treaty"--announced for the immediate future--to start. We also have to wait for the U.S. Senate to reach a decision on it. Consequently, considering that the two treaties will become effective simultaneously, one should feel that it is too soon to express definite judgments and opinions on what was agreed upon in Washington yesterday, which is only a part--although a substantial part--of the matter that is covered as a whole by the two aforementioned treaties.

In spite of everything and even though, we repeat, it would be wiser to wait for a final U.S. Senate decision, differing opinions, both for an against, will be made known regarding yesterday's decision. Naturally, the opinions expressed will be varied and probably of a discordant nature.

One of the first questions to ask ourselves would be to what extent and how the reservations, modifications, additions--or whatever they are called--introduced by the U.S. Senate will alter the scope, meaning or goal of the dispositions established in the articles of the original texts, which were signed by President Carter and General Torrijos and ratified by an overwhelming majority of Panamanians in a plebiscite held for that purpose. It is necessary to read and analyze with care, attentiveness and a great deal of calmness the so-called modifications before reaching a definite opinion on the matter. If after such an analysis one should consider them as unimportant, secondary and having no affect on the essence of what had been previously agreed upon and signed, then there should be no objection to accepting them, thereby avoiding a situation in which the treaties--which were so laboriously negotiated--will not be put into effect. At any rate, what is most advisable now is to keep an alert and vigilant attitude until complete Senate ratification is achieved after the "Panama Canal Treaty" is voted on.

POSSIBLE EFFECTS OF CARTER'S LETTER TO TORRIJOS EXAMINED

PA2103Z7Y Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 20 Mar 78 p 4 PA

["Bona Fide" column by Camilo O. Perez: "The President's Serious Problem"]

[Text] We have been weighing the contents of the letter that President Carter sent from Washington to the Panamanian chief of government immediately following the executive's acceptance of the DeConcini reservation. The letter states that Panamanians should not be worried about the "reservations" or "amendments."

President Carter's statement seems to be opposed to the will of the Senate and at the same time a contradiction of the U.S. legal system. The effect of Carter's statement can be seen in the light of two possibilities:

1. It is an imprudent and naive maneuver. However, it is made in good faith befitting a man devoid of puritanical philosophical ideas. In this respect, Carter is a good Baptist.

2. It is a reply which seeks only one thing: to placate the various Panamanian sectors who do not see eye to eye with the amendments, reservations and understandings.

Besides, there is a danger that might directly affect the U.S. Senate's acceptance of the Panama Canal treaty. When the undecided senators realize that none of the amendments or reservations already approved in the neutrality treaty will meet with the President's approval, according to the letter we are commenting on, President Carter better be prepared for the second round of debates on the treaty that will return the Canal Zone to Panama.

We are more than sure that the senators will intensify their strategy on the Senate floor, and that, aware of the President's position, they will not believe in other agreements [as published] and will propose amendments and reservations which will be even more harmful and frustrating to Panama.

This means that President Carter and his Senate aides will have to struggle harder to avoid the defeat of a strategy as complicated as the one they carried out recently.

When statements are made, however, we must consider the way they will be interpreted domestically, as well as abroad.

A calm study must be made so as to establish a sort of security cordon. [as published] The same thing happens here. There are serious sectors that believe that the reservations and amendments are a change in the text of the treaty. They are not mistaken. Therefore, the senators who will propose amendments and reservations will be rejecting the treaties and will work toward that end.

U.S. COMPANIES REPORTEDLY IMPEDING COMUNBANA OPERATIONS

PA2119427 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1900 GMT 21 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Panama, 21 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--According to sources close to the Panamanian Government, the U.S. transnational fruit companies are trying to block the beginning of operations of the Multinational Banana Marketing Corporation (COMUNBANA).

The company, which was established by Colombia, Panama, Costa Rica and Honduras in the framework of the Union of Banana Exporting Countries (UPEB), had planned to begin its banana shipments to Europe in April with a shipment from Panama.

The transnational Standard Fruit and United Brands companies--the latter operates in Panama under the name of Chiriqui Land Company--have reportedly inundated the European banana market, causing an oversupply that immediately caused prices to drop.

The first shipment of COMUNBANA is to be made with bananas from the Panamanian state plantations.

During recent weeks, Panamanian and UPEB officials have visited Western and Eastern European countries to guarantee the beginning of COMUNBANA operations and to obtain new contracts.

COSTA RICA

PORTUGAL'S MARIO SOARES ARRIVES, GRANTS INTERVIEW

PA212329Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Mar 78 PA

[Excerpts] President Oduber and Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares will lunch together in a few minutes. We seek a more just international economic order between the rich and poor countries of the world, said Soares, prime minister of Portugal and vice president of the Socialist International, in exclusive statements.

Soares arrived last night from Venezuela on President Carlos Andres Perez' airplane. In his suite at the Costa Rica Hotel, he spoke to us abou the future of social democracy in the world.

[begin recording--question] Mr Prime Minister, what is the history of the ties between the Socialist International and our country? We have been told that one of your main objectives is to gather information about our country.

[Answer] As you know, the National Liberation Party [PLN] of Costa Rica has been a member in full standing of the Socialist International for a long time, and we have close ties with Costa Rica. Costa Rica's president, Oduber, is, like me, a vice president of the Socialist International. Therefore, we have very strong ties with Costa Rica. We are visiting the countries of this area, some of the countries in this area, to meet with local leaders and exiled leaders who are either in Costa Rica, Mexico or Venezuela and who are from other countries such as Brazil, Argentina, Bolivia, Peru and so forth, so we can exchange information and opinions with the leaders of the national liberation party to reach joint understandings.

[Question] During this private meeting which you will hold in a few minutes with the president of the republic, will you make a broad analysis of the factors which led to the defeat of the PLN?

[Answer] Yes, I will discuss this with the president, but also later during the meeting that will be held with the leaders of the PLN and the entire delegation of the Socialist International. We are going to make a lengthy analysis of the problems of Latin America, and of course the problems of Costa Rica.

[Question] Are you concerned about the escalation of military control in Latin America?

[Answer] Yes, I am concerned about this, but this military escalation had ended and is now in decline. The campaign in the United States in favor of human rights is important to the extent that it can influence the decline of this military control.

Democracy is a regime which calls for civilian authority to take precedence over military power. Therefore, there are no military democracies. There are civilian democracies. I believe that military regimes may be a temporary phase of a country, but when stability is achieved, they will choose democracy. I believe that this is the path of Latin America and the rest of the world. [end recording]

GUATEMALA

PRESIDENT-ELECT LUCAS GARCIA'S GOVERNMENT PLAN

PA202235Y Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 14 Mar pp 6-8, 19, 20; 15 Mar pp 7, 8, 14 PA

[Government plan of Guatemalan President-elect Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia]

[Text] INTRODUCTION

The outlines of this government plan have required a visit to all the departments, municipalities and the most remote parts of the country to ascertain personally the needs of rural and urban families.

It calls for the development of actions to satisfy to a high degree the basic needs for food, clothing, housing, health, education, employment, production, social security and recreation to free the people of social, political, economic and cultural neglect.

In submitting the plan to the people for their consideration, I do so with the firm intention that its development and execution will include the participation of all Guatemalans in a frank and sincere dialog.

[signed] Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

To establish peace based on the welfare of all Guatemalans in which all will have equal opportunities to participate in production and the enjoyment of benefits, within a democratic framework of justice, legality and respect for human rights, through the active and organized participation of all the people, especially the great majority.

BASIC PRINCIPLES

A government plan as a programmatic expression of what is considered appropriate and necessary to the nation's democratic development and the welfare of all its inhabitants is not implemented by itself, no matter how well conceived it may be. As with everything in life, it has to be implemented by human beings. But the behavior of these people must follow basic principles that serve as definite guidelines for their conduct and will impart clear philosophical content to the plan and its execution.

From the above standpoint, the basic principles directing our administration are:

1. Resoluteness, honesty and responsibility.

As with all proposed goals, resolve to reach them is a decisive factor in their attainment. We have and will contribute the necessary resolve to overcome any impediment obstructing the way that must be followed to attain the desired objective--social peace based on actions of social content within a democratic framework. Each day our faith in a better future for Guatemala will strengthen our resolve to provide it.

As a norm we have always followed, honesty will guide each of our actions in government. But we will also demand strict honesty from the lower to the top levels in the administration not only in regard to the management of public funds but also in any act of public service. We will be inflexible in demanding compliance with this principle.

Without exception, there must be responsibility in the government. From now on we assume responsibility before the Guatemalan people for each and every one of the administrative and government actions carried out in our administration, the same responsibility which we will demand as an indispensable condition from all government employees.

2. Sovereignty, Independence and Nationalism.

In regard to national sovereignty and independence, we will maintain untouched and will strictly observe the principle that in any order of things before all is Guatemala and the Guatemalans, whose interests we will preserve and protect permanently, imbued with a profound nationalist spirit without concern for the origin and magnitude of the pressure which may be put on us, be it from within or outside the national territory.

Applying such a principle to foreign policy, we will promote the most cordial relations with all nations of the world within the framework of peaceful coexistence and without intervening in their internal affairs, especially regarding the fraternal nations of Central America. Within this order of ideas, we will support any effort made for the restoration of the great fatherland.

3. Order and security based on legality.

The maintenance of internal order and the guarantees to the population of security for their persons, families and possessions are mandatory duties for a democratic government and are indispensable conditions for obtaining social peace.

We will maintain domestic order and guarantee the security of individuals, families and property. We will prevent and fight continuously and drastically against any kind of crime which threatens those values, no matter where it comes from. However, we will do so in strict accord with the constitution and the laws of the republic without exception or excuse. We will do so only and exclusively with the means and procedures established by the same laws.

In addition we respect and will enforce respect for the constitutional principle of independence of the organs of the state so that the decisions of the courts of the republic will reflect the esteem which an administration by law requires. We will follow the same norm of conduct for the legislative branch.

4. Social justice.

Justice should be understood not only in the strict sense of the application of the law to specific cases by the courts of the republic, whose free, prompt and effective administration is a principle of high priority for us; it should also be understood in its broader sense of social justice in which everyone is entitled to what rightfully belongs to him in every respect and according to the norms of social coexistence which exist in the democratic system of government. In this sense we will apply the concept of justice in our administration.

5. Full employment and fair distribution of revenue.

It is the government's task to create the necessary conditions so there will be sources of employment for the entire economically active population of the country. A simple study of our government plan will show that it is directed entirely at procuring employment for the largest possible number of Guatemalans at wage levels corresponding to the social principle of just distribution of income.

6. Popular organization.

The future of the fatherland is not the business of a few but of all Guatemalans. We must all participate actively in this endeavor, from which nobody should exclude himself, nor should anybody be excluded from this. This participation, however, should be organized so that it can be perceived and heard. For that reason, we recognize and guarantee the right and duty of all Guatemalans of whatever age, both men and women, to participate in an organized form in areas of national development. This requires organizing to attain a better economic and social standard of living.

7. Participation of the Guatemalan woman.

We believe in the equality of men and women, both having the same rights and obligations. This means that it is not necessary to make comments based on a distinction of the sexes. We also acknowledge the vital role that women play in national life and their capacity to hold any type of post, be it public or private. We are also aware of the fact that the mother and, particularly, the working mother should naturally be the object of special treatment and protection.

8. Administrative development.

The government's basic duty is to satisfy the people's needs. The more the rulers satisfy popular needs, the more they are fulfilling the mandate they received from the people, who ultimately are the only rulers.

In order to fulfill the popular mandate, an efficient public administration is needed because the extent to which the popular needs are satisfied is dependent upon the capabilities of the members of the administration. We promise to improve the public administration's efficiency by means of an administrative development program that will enable it to fulfill the new tasks imposed by the dynamics of national development.

It is essential to implement systems, methods and procedures in order to avoid the tedious amount of paperwork, with the subsequent loss of time and resources, that characterizes public activities. In order to be able to fulfill the government plan in its entirety, it is essential to modernize and reorganize the administrative processes entrusted to the government apparatus.

But it is also imperative to adopt a new administrative policy in connection with public employees based on the principles of merit and public service. On the basis of their administrative careers, public employees will thus be able to improve their administrative and technical capabilities. By the same token and in accordance with a spirit of public service, the people will receive the works and services that they finance through the taxes they pay and the other contributions they make.

9. Municipal and regional development.

The government plan establishes policies, programs and activities aimed at regionalizing national development. This implies that we are concerned with bringing progress to the entire republic and with curbing the current macrocephalic phenomenon resulting from the concentration of most activities in the capital. It is necessary to establish development centers that will compete with the capital and bring life to the country's other regions. To achieve this, we will do all that is necessary to create the conditions that will enable us to decentralize our economic activities and the public administration, thus both promoting and complementing economic activities.

Each region will be treated according to its own characteristics, conditions and needs. The important thing is that we are firmly determined to take development to the rural areas, because the residents there are also Guatemalans and are legitimately entitled to receive from the government the attention they deserve. This is in accordance with our philosophy that the government is for and belongs to all of the country's inhabitants.

Within the framework of national and regional problems, municipal administrations constitute the strongest nuclei of our attention, since they are the bodies which have the closest contact with the people's needs. In accordance with the technical and administrative autonomy that the law grants municipalities, we shall grant them the necessary aid to enable them to fulfill the important tasks assigned to them. Regarding this and within the framework of administrative decentralization, we will proceed to carry out fiscal decentralization in order to enable municipalities to take direct advantage of a substantial part of the taxes and contributions that their residents pay.

10. Public investment.

Foreign loans have become a common means of financing public investments, thus raising the public debt to alarming levels and endangering the country's debt capacity. Aware of this situation, we will contract new debts only when strictly and unavoidably necessary or for investments which will pay for themselves.

11. Cost of living.

We cannot ignore the level to which the cost of living has risen, particularly to the detriment of Guatemalans with few economic resources. Our entire government plan calls for continued policies and actions aimed at creating new sources of work, stimulating production and improving the distribution of income in a sincere effort and firm determination to improve the people's standard of living, particularly of the great majority of society. In addition we will adopt all the necessary measures to curb the high cost of living through an integrated and realistic program based on increased production and productivity in the agricultural, industrial and service areas, the management, and greater flexibility of the tariff system and the reduction of banking and commercial credit costs.

V. [as published] AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Basic Objectives

The agricultural sector has always been and continues to be the most important sector of the national economy.

In keeping with this, the greatest attention and importance will be given to agricultural activities and those connected with animal production in order to guarantee a sufficient and diversified supply of food for the Guatemalan people and in order to satisfy the demand for raw materials by the national agroindustry, to provide the diversification necessary to carry out agricultural exports, and rationally to use, increase and conserve renewable natural resources. The work plan makes the agricultural public sector participate in a specific number of programs aimed at promoting, researching, training, providing technical assistance for and financing the productive work of small- and middle-sized agricultural producers.

Rural workers will be treated in a special manner and will be provided with land, either collectively or individually. New sources of well-paid work will be promoted through the creation of small- and middle-sized agroindustrial and handicraft enterprises in order to absorb the unemployed or underemployed but economically active population and to raise its living standard.

The exploitation, development and conservation of renewable natural resources--timber, water, soil, flora and fauna--through an integral program is also foreseen. All actions in this direction will seek to reestablish the ecological balance and to prevent the extinction and destruction of resources in order to guarantee the lives of both men and animals now and in the future.

Public expenses are a determining factor of development and an important instrument for growth and support, but in themselves they are not enough; they must be accompanied by the rational use of human, natural and other resources.

In order to reach the agricultural production goals, it is essential to allow the small, medium and large producers to participate in the tasks and decisions made at the national level.

Specific Objectives

Supply of food products for the population and raw materials and byproducts for agro-industry.

Support of and incentives to the production of agricultural exports, particularly non-traditional products.

Creation of well-paying jobs for the rural population in order to elevate the standard of living.

Rational use, conservation and increase of renewable natural resources.

Production Programs

Of foods: basic grains, vegetables, fruits, potatoes, meat, fish, eggs, milk, cooking oils and fats.

Of raw materials: coffee, cotton, sugarcane, rubber, cacao, sesame, soybean, castor oil, coconuts, peanuts, fibers, bananas, plantain, chicle, cardamon, fruits, flowers, fodder, and vegetables.

Support of and Stimulus to the Production of Agricultural Exports:

Agricultural and cattle diversification.

Promotion of nontraditional exports.

Creation of Jobs:

Agrarian development and distribution of land (special projects: transversal strip of the north and Peten).

Establishment of agroindustrial, handicraft, lumber and fishing enterprises.

High-profit crops for small and medium farmers.

Renewable natural resources:

Study, construction and development of new irrigation and drainage projects.

Public reforestation and incentives for private reforestation.

Adequate management and rational use of forests.

Service Programs

Agricultural, livestock and agroindustrial training.

Regional experimentation.

Traditional crops.

Agricultural and livestock diversification.

Agricultural and livestock sanitation protection.

Organizations for production:

Cooperatives.

Peasant organizations.

Community enterprises.

Agrarian development.

Marketing.

Storage and conservation of agricultural products.

Silos and cold storage systems.

Storage centers.

Crafts.

Agricultural and livestock technical aid.

Technical assistance and legal instruments for the conservation of soil, water, fauna and flora.

Credits for:

Production, marketing, agroindustry, promotion of exports and purchase of land.

Protection and improvement of renewable natural resources.

Goals

Increase the productivity of the rural population through regional training centers, mobile [moviles] actions, programmed instruction, radio and correspondence courses; training of the necessary teachers and technicians.

Development of technology of practical and economic application for the production of basic grains, vegetables, fruits, oils, fibers and livestock through important experimental stations and fields.

Nationwide prevention and control of pests and diseases which affect agricultural and animal production; strengthening of quarantines.

Consolidation and expansion of the national cooperative movement.

Reorientation and support of the business activities of the peasant and community organizations at the national level.

Assistance to the landless peasant families through collective and individual rural settlements.

Increase and promotion of the public and private sector storage capacity for grains and basic products through the establishment of fishing terminals, collection centers, refrigerated installations, classification and packaging plants, wholesale markets and mills through the creation of adequate and specific lines of credit for small and medium producers.

Strong promotion of handicrafts with the creation of handicraft centers, particularly in the plateau, giving priority to the cooperative and community sector.

Provide technical assistance to small and medium agricultural, cattle and agroindustrial producers.

Democratization of credit so that it will be speedy, opportune and with low interest for the small and medium producers through rural credit institutions throughout the country.

Assure the income return and effectiveness of individual and cooperative credits through the necessary studies and projects.

Increase the fund for land purchases.

Implementation and development of new projects of irrigation and drainage, reforestation, use of forests, and conservation of soil, water, flora and fauna.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE TOURISM, MINING AND HYDROCARBONS INDUSTRIES

Basic Objectives

Industrial policy will be aimed at making rational use of the industrial capacity established in the country which, while incorporating technology and without sacrificing efficiency, will make greater use of manual labor to help raise the standard of living.

Factors.

Industry, Specific Objectives

Basic and industrial activities must be related by using raw materials obtained from agriculture and livestock for agroindustrial processing and production of goods to be used in basic productive processes. Industries exporting to Central American countries and outside the area which use in the finished products large quantities of local raw materials will be promoted.

Assembly and processing industries will be promoted if they contribute significantly to creating wealth and the welfare of the people. The production of goods which are fundamental for the operation of industrial activities which already exist in the country or will be established in the future will be encouraged.

Programs

Industrial Decentralization

The industrial process, together with the population increase, has increased infrastructure and service problems, environmental pollution, traffic congestion and a shortage of housing.

For this reason, an industrial decentralization plan is necessary to lessen the congestion in the central region, to strengthen local sources of agroindustrial products and to create industrial complexes which will facilitate a special reorganization of the economy and growing changes in the demographic patterns in the country.

The main purpose of decentralization is to give selective incentives to those industries, especially small and medium industries, which would lessen the congestion in Guatemala's metropolitan area and to determine the zones which have the most advantageous conditions for industrial development.

The government's measures to carry out decentralization are the following:

To provide land at low prices and subsidies to industries being established in other regions. These industries will be exempt from paying most taxes. To participate as manager in those activities considered preferential. To complete the infrastructure and services in selected regions and established free zones.

Agroindustries

The establishment of agroindustries will be promoted in areas in the interior of the republic which have potential for producing raw materials. Local capital investment and the participation of small and medium industry, either individually or associated and using technology requiring manual labor, will receive priority treatment.

Projects for the processing of agriculture, livestock, forest and marine products and byproducts will be promoted.

Metal Products and Household Appliances.

Metal products will be developed and expanded, especially the production of equipment, farm and industrial tools, and parts and accessories for national and regional industries.

Electric appliances and electronics will be developed wherever feasible.

Small Industry and Handicrafts

Specialized instructors will be trained and new training centers will be established, while those already existing will be improved.

Small businessmen will receive instructions in processes of production, organization, administration, purchasing of equipment, quality control and marketing.

Systems of supplying raw materials for the domestic as well as foreign markets will be established through joint public and private sectors.

Small production and marketing cooperatives will be encouraged.

A fund will be established with the proper resources to give small enterprises an effective credit support.

Construction Materials

Small and medium industries will receive financial and technical assistance, especially those located in areas affected by the earthquake. They will also receive facilities to obtain raw materials, fuel and electric power. Projects for making and processing construction materials for housing projects of social need will receive support through special low-interest, long-term loans.

CENTRAL AMERICAN INTEGRATION

Within the context of Central American integration, national industry should be promoted: A) to meet local demands; B) to export to third countries; and C) to promote products which because of their obvious competitive advantages should be produced in Guatemala for regional distribution.

In the overall field of Central American integration, Guatemala should implement a policy of defending its industries. Tax incentives should be granted using a more selective criterion. Central American import duties should be completely revised as an important means to gradually solve Central America's economic problems. However, the effect of this measure should not be overestimated.

This development instrument should be complemented with others of an economic nature applied for an economic and social purpose at the local level, such as taxes and budgets, which would allow for the redistribution of income and a positive increase in production of goods and services of great national demand and which would contribute to an integrated economic and social development.

Objectives

To significantly improve the people's standard of living by expanding production, halting the exodus to the cities and improving socioeconomic conditions.

To meet local and regional demands efficiently by replacing goods imported from outside the region.

To promote the transition of the handicraft industry to the level of small industries while preserving and protecting the quality of the product and consumer demand.

To incorporate modern technology in the country.

Tourism

As a source of public and private income, tourism should be oriented according to policies of socioeconomic and cultural development.

Programs

Consolidating the complex western central altiplano and conclude the Tikal-Rio Dulce-Quirigua project.

Continuing the conservation and restoration programs of historic centers, Antigua Guatemala and other archeological sites.

Promoting the expansion of housing facilities and required public utilities in the interior of the country and along communications routes.

Putting a hotel school into operation.

Promoting a vigorous and well-oriented campaign of international promotion and publicity.

Improving the coordination mechanisms between the public and private sectors, which play an important role in this field.

Purposes

To make national and international tourism and the historic, archeological and natural beauties of the country accessible.

MINING AND HYDROCARBONS

Specific Objectives

Implementing a nationalistic, selective, dynamic and specific policy which, in addition to promoting the country's development and minimizing dependence on foreign sources, will carry out the operations within a legal framework but for the legitimate interests of Guatemala and Guatemalans.

Programs

Strengthening and improving the public sector's capacity to act in research, promotion, regulation and control of hydrocarbons.

Evaluating the country's mineral resources to promote their rational exploitation.

Promoting the participation of domestic capital in the activities of this sector.

Promoting domestic refineries and oil pipelines.

Initiating the groundwork for the establishment of a petrochemical industry.

Continuing with the intensive training of sufficient Guatemalan personnel in order to have national technicians available in the near future.

OPERATE WITH RESPONSIBILITY IN THE INTERNATIONAL FIELD

Purposes

Supplying, as a minimum, all the necessities for domestic consumption on a short and intermediate range basis with a resultant decrease in payments abroad.

Helping to diversify the productive structure, increasing the scope of independent decision making and decreasing dependence.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Basic Objective

Improving the quality of life and welfare of all Guatemalans by creating conditions and establishing programs and services which will insure access to education, art and culture, health care and the provision of clothing, housing, employment and family protection in a permanent and dignified manner in order to achieve greater social and economic justice.

SECTORS

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE

Specific Objectives

Democratizing, extending and deepening education, art and culture as a function of the national realities and capabilities.

Expanding and modernizing educational opportunities according to the needs of the country's economic and social development.

Supporting higher education and promoting scientific and technological research as a function of the need for and availability of national human and natural resources.

Improving the social and economic conditions of the teachers, allowing them the participation necessary to solve their problems.

Preserving and protecting national and cultural educational values.

Developing well-rounded personalities through education.

Satisfying the new demands of national educational development, revising the education policy.

Programs

Creating the necessary number of teaching positions, stimulating private teaching establishments and improving and expanding the number of schoolrooms throughout the land.

Revising the educational programs and materials on all educational levels and creating new areas of study at the intermediate level.

Increasing the state's contribution to the University of San Carlos and, in general, to higher education and scientific and technological research establishments.

Creating a national fund for higher education.

Maintaining, consolidating and improving the economic and social conquests of the Guatemalan teachers and allowing their participation in the solution of the system's problems through dialog.

Promoting the creation, development and production of national educational systems and materials.

Stimulating artistic, cultural, sports, civic and social activities.

Effectively coordinating scholastic and extracurricular programs within the national educational system and with other sectors.

Revising the legal and institutional structures of the national educational system and the educational policy.

Purpose

Expanding the scope of the national educational system in order to minimize the number of Guatemalans who lack education opportunities.

Modernizing and adapting the study programs to the real characteristics of Guatemalan society and national development needs and diversifying education at the intermediate level as a function of the demands of national development, especially in the agricultural and industrial sectors and in order to provide greater social mobility.

Supporting higher education, scientific and technological research, and providing facilities for access to higher education, domestically or abroad, by granting special selective credits.

Granting and recognizing the rightful dignity of the teacher in the Guatemalan community as a basic agent of its development and in his character as guider of youths.

Establishing a permanent process of national cohesion which will identify and promote values and attitudes characteristic of the country as a function of social welfare.

Developing artistic and cultural expression in all of their manifestations, especially those that involve the conservation and dissemination of national values.

Organizing and promoting school sports and other student activities of a civic and social nature.

Avoiding duplication of effort and unnecessary expenditure of resources, achieving greater efficiency.

Modernization of education legislation and the institutional, technical and administrative structure of the national education system.

HEALTH

Specific Objectives

Protect the health of all Guatemalans through adequate nutrition, a healthy environment, implementation of preventive health programs, efficient and appropriate hospital care and access to inexpensive medicine.

Programs

Construction of aqueducts and sewers, latrines in urban and rural areas and promoting health education, particularly in the rural areas.

Support for research and development of new food sources and establishment of complementary food programs for infants and school children.

Support for municipalities in controlling pollution.

Consolidation of preventive activities of mass vaccination and eradication of endemic diseases.

Complementation and supply of the national network of hospitals and health centers; training at all levels, and creation of new positions for research, medical, paramedical and auxiliary personnel.

Revision and improvement of the programs of public pharmacies; decrease in the price of medicine; and programs on rural health.

Effective coordination of the public health programs in the public health sector as well as the social security sector.

Goals

Decrease in the disease and mortality rates, particularly among children, increased life expectancy, and spiritual, biological, physical and social well-being for the people.

Improve the diet of all the population.

Improve sanitation and environmental control in urban and rural areas.

Eradicate endemic diseases in various regions of the country.

Expand coverage of the national health system in its preventive, treatment and rehabilitation functions.

Assure low-income groups access to basic services and inexpensive medicine.

Prevent duplication of effort and unnecessary use of scarce resources.

HOUSING

Specific Objectives

Satisfy the housing needs of the population through permanent, comfortable and inhabitable housing.

Decrease the housing deficit and replace the losses from the 1976 earthquake.

Harmonize the granting of housing with regional and urban development programs in order to discourage rural migration and reduce poverty.

Programs

Organize a national housing and urban development council.

Establish a national savings and loan system for housing.

Revise and improve the organization and functions of the National Housing Bank in order to speed up and liberalize the granting of low-interest, long-term loans for the construction of low-cost housing in rural and urban areas, particularly areas affected by the 1976 earthquake, and create financial and technical mechanisms to support and promote the participation of the private sector in the construction of housing, either through companies or cooperatives, in the urban and rural areas.

Promote the orderly growth of new urban centers; establish regulatory mechanisms for the use and disposition of land for urban objectives and for the rational use of public services, helping the municipalities in the design, drafting and implementation of urban development plans.

Goals

Coordinate housing construction and regional and urban development programs with the national reconstruction plan.

Decrease the current housing deficit and satisfy the housing needs created by the growth in population.

Improve the state and private sector capacity to satisfy the financial needs of housing construction.

Decrease the migration of the rural population to the metropolitan area and overcome the current poverty in the metropolitan area.

FAMILY AND LABOR SECURITY AND SOCIAL WELFARE

Specific Objectives

Provide all Guatemalans and their families with minimum economic and social well-being by granting benefits in money or services in accordance with the social security principles established in the constitution of the republic.

Promote the integration and security of the family as the primary unit of Guatemalan society.

Grant full protection to children and adolescents as individuals who will make up the future Guatemalan society.

Promote harmonious and just relations between labor and management.

Promote and guarantee labor organization for social and economic improvement.

Programs

Guarantee the state's contribution to social security.

Revise, adapt and strengthen the accident, illness, maternity, old age and survivors programs of social security.

Revise, adapt and strengthen current maternity and infant protection programs.

Strengthen the programs of nutrition, training, guidance and recreation of children and youths, and revise, adapt and strengthen the current programs of treatment and reeducation of minors.

Promote and support the participation of private entities in social and family welfare.

Create a high-level entity to coordinate the policies, programs and actions of social and family welfare.

Strengthen and expand educational programs to promote responsible fatherhood.

Reform labor legislation, adapting it to the circumstances of national social and economic development.

Incorporate universal benefits into labor legislation.

Respect free trade union and cooperative organizations of both workers and peasants.

Strengthen relations of state workers, particularly in connection with job stability [permanencia] and the implementation of the public administration's wage law, especially as it concerns guarantees for the observance of the corresponding wage steps.

Purpose

To increase the system's financial resources in order to broaden and improve its programs.

To consolidate, strengthen and expand coverage of the Guatemalan Social Security Institute.

To improve and expand mother-infant protection in both urban and rural areas.

To promote an integral formation of children and adolescents, particularly in rural areas, and to decrease the number of problem homes and juvenile delinquency.

To acknowledge and support the role of private social assistance in the area of social welfare.

To coordinate state activities in the social and family welfare programs for a better use of available resources and more effective results.

To educate the people in order to enable them to voluntarily, responsibly and conscientiously make the necessary decisions regarding the size of their families.

To guarantee respect for the workers' rights through adequate tutelage by the state.

To promote labor mobility and the workers' rights to change occupations or jobs of their own free will.

To strengthen the democratic organization of urban and rural labor groups for the purpose of improving them socially and economically.

To lay the groundwork for well-paid jobs in the area of public administration.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE

Basic Objective

To efficiently support other sectors so that when infrastructures become strong stimuli for decentralization, national development can be carried out integrally, particularly the country's agricultural and agrarian development whose benefits favor mostly the rural population.

COMMUNICATIONS SUBSECTORS

Specific Objectives

To integrate the entire country physically, socially and economically, particularly the large sectors that have been excluded from our national development.

Programs

Finishing construction of important roads that make up the northern and Peten highways.

Construction of secondary, rural and access roads.

Intercommunication of the entire country through the microwave system; installation of the automatic phone system in the departmental capitals and other important urban centers and improvement and expansion of the phone system in the metropolitan area.

Purpose

To incorporate the country's northern sector into our national development.

To facilitate the flow of products to markets.

To enable the country's inhabitants to communicate rapidly with the entire national territory.

TRANSPORT

Specific Objectives

To achieve the efficient rendering of basic services for the country's development.

PROGRAMS

Railroad

To improve and expand the number of locomotives and boxcars of the Guatemalan railways.

To construct the national dry canal [canal seco nacional].

Air

To build a new air terminal outside the capital.

To turn Aviateca into a mixed enterprise (state-workers-private capital).

Maritime

To construct a Pacific port.

To improve and expand the infrastructure and equipment of existing ports.

To turn the greater Central American merchant fleet into a mixed enterprise (state, shipping companies, workers, private capital).

To create a national maritime authority.

Purpose

To achieve an efficient and profitable operation of the system and smoother operation of the cargo transport system.

To provide the system with greater efficiency and profitability and provide smoother operations and a diversified cargo capacity to air traffic; to release capital city residents from the constant threat of air accidents while avoiding environmental pollution.

To increase considerably our national coastal trade as well as the system's efficiency, profitability and coordination.

ELECTRIFICATION

Specific Objectives

To provide continued support for industrial development by avoiding energy problems and to improve the standard of living of both urban and rural populations.

Programs

To conclude the Chixoy and Aguacapa projects.

To promote the development of the second great hydroelectric project of the north: Xalala, Chisec and Chulac.

To expand the Los Altos hydroelectric plant.

To expand the distribution network in order to cover the entire country.

To promote the development of geothermal projects.

To interconnect our country with Honduras and El Salvador.

To unify production and distribution services.

To transform EGSA [not further identified] into a totally state-run company in order to turn it into a public service enterprise.

Purpose

To reduce the cost of electrical energy, to gradually increase availability in accordance with the needs created by our future national development and to make the system more efficient and profitable by introducing coordination measures which will also contribute to this purpose.

GRANMA REAFFIRMS CUBAN SUPPORT FOR AFRICANS

FL212040Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 21 Mar 78 FL

[Text] As a just tribute to the memory of all who have fallen in the struggle for justice, equality and human dignity, today is commemorated the international day for the elimination of racial discrimination. This is the opening statement of an editorial published in today's daily GRANMA, the official organ of the PCC Central Committee.

This date, 21 March, was selected by the UN General Assembly taking into consideration a tragic but, at the same time, heroic event which took place on such a date in 1960 at the town of Sharpeville in the South African Republic. On that day, the South African racist police fired their handguns, machineguns and rifles more than 700 times in just 40 seconds, causing the death of 69 black Africans and nearly 200 wounded. These citizens had taken to the streets peacefully to protest against a new apartheid law aimed at enforcing more strictly the extreme racial discrimination existing in South Africa.

This year, the international day for the elimination of racial discrimination has a special and profound significance. It must become a new milestone in the prolonged struggle for the eradication of apartheid and all manifestations of racial discrimination and oppression in the world. This date is commemorated within the framework of the international year against apartheid, which was proposed by the UN Economic and Social Council and supported by the World Conference for Action Against Apartheid that met from 22 to 26 August 1977 at Lagos, Nigeria with the participation of representatives from 112 countries, GRANMA adds in its editorial.

The struggle for the elimination of racism and all forms of racial discrimination is of vital importance. It is such that the documents of the most important international events held in the past 3 years have assigned to that problem a prominent position, the GRANMA editorial states. Despite world consensus against racial discrimination, the white minority regimes of South Africa and Rhodesia have continued to exist in southern Africa, regimes which intensify their odious policy of racial discrimination and oppression of millions of blacks, not only in those two countries but also in Namibia.

The daily GRANMA asks itself: What justification do those racist regimes have to act in such a manner as a challenge to the world? This has an explanation, the PCC Central Committee organ adds. Racism is not simply an ideology based on attitudes and prejudices, it fundamentally is an integral element of the economic foundation of the capitalist society. Its history is indissolubly tied to the history of capitalism and Africa's case is tied to the colonial and imperialist superpowers.

That is why, the daily GRANMA states, no one should be surprised that the racist ideology, the ideology of white supremacy serves imperialism in its policy of conquest and plunder, of robbery and exploitation, or that it serves imperialism in its policy of aggression and subversion as in the cases of South Africa against Angola and Rhodesia against Mozambique. In the same manner, the editorial continues, it cannot surprise anyone that the imperialist countries ignore the military and economic sanctions that have been agreed upon against the South African racist regimes. This is more than evident proof that very close ties exist between imperialism and racism--and to this should be added Zionism and fascism.

GRANMA then asks: Could the Vorster and Smith regimes be in condition to ignore the international resolutions if they were not given economic and military support, overt or covert, by the Western superpowers, particularly by the United States? The imperialists who publicly announce an alleged devotion for human rights demonstrate all their hypocrisy when they do not do anything--from a practical point of view--to impede the racist regimes of South Africa or Rhodesia from conducting massacres such as that of Soweto in 1976, which exceeded in brutality the one at Sharpeville, or to impede that thousands of Africans who oppose apartheid and discriminatory practices from being imprisoned in concentration camps, tortured and executed.

South Africa's and Rhodesia's prisons are packed with innocent victims whose only crime was to demand their legitimate civil and political rights and restoration of their human dignity. The United States and other capitalist superpowers consistently fail to fulfill the UN resolutions on arms embargo against South Africa and Rhodesia as well as those dealing with a halt to all investments in those countries. In so doing, the editorial published in today's GRANMA adds, they help to maintain apartheid and other forms of racial discrimination.

The peoples of Africa have demonstrated they are capable of defeating imperialism's maneuvers and aggressions and asserting the principle of self-determination. Angola and Ethiopia are brilliant examples of that, and we are sure, the editorial points out, that in the struggle against racial discrimination and its most atrocious and criminal manifestation--apartheid--the African peoples will be victorious at the end.

On this international day for the elimination of racial discrimination and on this international year against apartheid, we reiterate our support for and solidarity with millions of Africans who are struggling in South Africa, Rhodesia and Namibia against the practice of racial discrimination by the Vorster and Smith regimes and their mainstay--imperialism. In closing, the daily GRANMA, the official organ of the PCC Central Committee, states: As Commander in Chief Fidel Castro stated in his closing remarks at the First PCC Congress, in that African struggle against the racists and imperialists we will be alongside the African peoples without the least wavering.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON MALMIERCA VISIT TO YEMEN

For the Aden Domestic Service text of the joint communique issued 20 March on Foreign Minister Malmierca's visit to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, see the Arabian Peninsula section of the 22 March Middle East & North Africa DAILY REPORT

CARTER ENVOY SIGNS AGREEMENT ON AID TO SOMALI REGIME

FL211314Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre and North American Assistant Secretary for African Affairs Richard Moose have signed a long-term pact in which the United States pledges to aid the Somali regime. The accord is the result of a prolonged meeting. Assistant Secretary Moose, as President Jimmy Carter's emissary, arrived in Mogadiscio, the Somali capital, 72 hours ago to deal with the government headed by Barre on the situation in the so-called Horn of Africa, among other topics. North American spokesmen stated that Carter's emissary and President Barre dealt with, among other questions, the conditions under which the United States will agree to sell weapons to the Somali Government.

JAMAICAN DELEGATION VISITS HOLGUIN CITY

FL161956Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1928 GMT 16 Mar 78 FL

[Manuel Cabrera report]

[Text] A delegation from the fraternal nation of Jamaica headed by Keith Rhodd, parliamentary secretary for youth and sports, has toured several sports installations in the city of Holguin. Holguin is the third Cuban city visited by the Jamaican delegation, which is in our country at the invitation of the Education Ministry to learn how sports schools are developed. They were received in Holguin by (Elba Noriega), member of the provincial people's government Executive Committee, and Roberto Quinones Ruiz and Roberto Rodriguez, sector directors of sports and education, respectively.

Previously the Jamaican delegation had visited the Martires de Barbados and Orestes Acosta basic sports training schools in Havana city and Santiago de Cuba respectively.

ALGERIAN SPORTS DELEGATION VISITS CAMAGUEY

FL172255Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2234 GMT 17 Mar 78 FL

[Isabel Noriega report]

[Text] The Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria's youth and sports minister, Jamal Houhou, and the delegation from that fraternal country accompanying him have arrived at Camaguey's Ignacio Agramonte airport. Making up the Algerian delegation are technical adviser (Bouser Amoucranes), national center of sports medicine director (Mejal Faalarvi) and Public Health Ministry director (Hafari Hilali). Accompanying the distinguished visitors for the Cuban side were Jorge Garcia Bango, national director of the National Institute for Sports, Physical Education and Recreation--INDER--and Fabio Ruiz, first vice president of this sports institution.

During its stay in the city of Camaguey, the delegation from the fraternal Algerian people will visit several sports installations built since the triumph of the revolution and will hold talks with leaders of political organizations and state organs.

MEXICAN CONSUMER RESEARCH DELEGATION ARRIVES

FL211745Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 21 Mar 78 FL

[Text] Flavio Bravo, vice president of the Council of Ministers, has received a Mexican delegation from the National Consumers Institute, headed by its general director Adolfo Lugo Verduzco. Dr Alfredo (Onolazco) and Lic Sergio Valdes are also in the delegation.

Attending the meeting were Eugenio Balari, president of the Cuban Institute of Domestic Consumer Demand, Research and Orientation and other officials. The meeting took place in a friendly atmosphere at which they discussed aspects of Cuban-Mexican cooperation in scientific and technical areas and problems of consumption in general.

PORTUGAL'S SOARES ARRIVES WITH SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL GROUP

FL181935Y Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 18 Mar 78 FL

[Text] The Portuguese prime minister stated yesterday that he came to the Dominican Republic as a guest at the invitation of the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD] and not representing the position he holds in his country. Mario Soares arrived in the country at about 1500 yesterday and was received at Las Americas Airport by President Balaguer and a large PRD committee. The prime minister met with the PRD National Executive Committee at (La Mancha Hall) in the Hotel Lina and afterward held a press conference.

In response to a question on whether his participation in official government functions would interfere with his presence at PRD activities, Soares stated that he had not come to the country as the Portuguese prime minister but rather as vice president of the Socialist International.

Prime Minister Mario Soares stated that he was invited by the PRD and that he will give priority to participation in activities of that group. Speaking in Portuguese, Soares stated that on the other hand, the visit of the Socialist International delegation to the Dominican Republic was not made for the purpose of interfering in Dominican internal affairs. He explained that the commission had arrived to observe and confirm the situation in the Dominican Republic and the other Latin American countries which will be visited during the tour. Soares stressed that the Socialist International does not try to give countries prescriptions on how to achieve respect for rights, because it is the people who choose their own destiny. He added that the function of the International is to become aware of countries' problems and better acquainted with their people and democratic organizations.

Accused of Interference, Departs

PA192203Y Paris AFP in French 2120 GMT 19 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 19 Mar (AFP)--Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares left Santo Domingo for Venezuela today on schedule after being accused by local police chief Gen Neie Nivar of interfering in domestic affairs.

The Portuguese leader, who headed a Socialist International delegation, had earlier agreed to participate in a meeting organized by the Dominican Revolutionary Party, which opposes President Joaquin Balaguer. But the government later banned the holding of this meeting, and the PRD accepted the government measure. Mr Soares had not commented on the charge made against him.

JAMAICA

PORTUGAL'S SOARES ARRIVES FOR 24-HOUR VISIT

PA2003O7Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0235 GMT 20 Mar 78 PA

[Text] Kingston, 19 Mar--Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares arrived here today for an official 24-hour visit to Jamaica. Soares, who is heading a Socialist International delegation, was welcomed by Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley and Minister of Foreign Affairs Patterson. Mario Soares, who is on a tour through the Caribbean area, will hold several meetings with Manley and, according to observers, will discuss Socialist International support for the Jamaican Government.

SUPPORT SOUGHT BY VIETNAM IN BORDER CONFLICT

FL131640Y Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 9 Mar 78 p 2 FL

[Text] At a press conference in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Monday, the Vietnamese ambassador to Jamaica, Mr. Ha Van Lau, appealed for Jamaican support of Vietnam in its border conflict with Kampuchea (Cambodia).

Mr. Ha Van Lau, also resident ambassador to Cuba, said that since 1975, Kampuchea had launched a vicious and bloody attack on the border regions of Vietnam, killing not only soldiers and men, but women and children.

Efforts to negotiate a peaceful settlement with Kampuchea had failed, and the Vietnamese had been forced to defend their sovereignty and independence.

The ambassador arrived here on March 1, and has had discussions with Foreign Affairs Minister P. J. Patterson, top members of the People's National Party and a number of government officials. On each occasion, he presented information about the Vietnam-Cambodia border dispute.

Solution

He said Minister Patterson had expressed solidarity with Vietnam in the struggle to work out a solution to the border dispute. The minister had said that Jamaica favoured a peaceful settlement to the problem and promised to follow with interest further developments on the issue.

At the press conference, the ambassador was introduced by the parliamentary secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Derrick Heaven. Assisting the ambassador was Mr. Nguyen Van Dao, who interpreted.

BRIEFS

JAMAICANS TRAINING IN CUBA--An orientation programme for the first female brigade to be offered construction scholarships to Cuba is underway at the Social Action Centre, Olivier Road, Kingston. The group of 25 will study plumbing, carpentry, electrical wiring, steel erecting, masonry, and welding during their one-year stay in Cuba, according to API [Agency for Public Information]. A number of young men have already completed construction courses in Cuba, and many are employed on building projects in Trelawny, Hanover and St. Ann. [Text] [Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 15 Mar 78 p2 FL]

MULTILATERAL SECURITY PLAN FOR BELIZE ARRANGED

FL161445Y Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 10 Mar 78 p 12 FL

[By Mohamed Hamaludin]

[Excerpts] Barbados, Guyana and Jamaica have agreed to take part in a multilateral security arrangement that would defend the territorial integrity of a future independent Belize, Belizean Premier George Price announced here yesterday.

A Spanish-speaking Latin American state had also agreed to join in the defence scheme, but Mr. Price said that he could not now name the country. He said the country was not Cuba--and he ruled out the possibility of asking Cuba for military assistance because of the likely response which would be forthcoming from the United States.

The "realities" were that the United States "was the most powerful country" and if Cuba was to give "physical support," Mr. Price said, "an unnecessary problem would be created."

The Belizean leader is today ending a visit to Guyana at the invitation of Prime Minister Forbes Burnham. He disclosed that he had been told by both United States Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and British Foreign Secretary Dr. David Owen that he should accept a deal which would mean land cession to Guatemala which has a dispute with London over the territory. Guatemala has claimed the whole of Belize and had threatened to invade the country if the dispute is not solved before independence.

Mr. Price announced that under latest proposals, he is being asked to concede about 1,000 square miles in southern Belize where there is potential for oil and where there are good fishing grounds as well as 2,000 Belizeans.

The Government of Belize was against land cession for several reasons, and so had to look to the alternative of a security guarantee after independence.

Mr. Price said that Canada had said neither yes nor no to taking part in the arrangement. He would be going to Venezuela today to hold talks with President Carlos Andres Perez at the latter's invitation.

Explaining how the security arrangement would work, the Belizean leader said that he envisaged that there would be a known stand by the participating countries that they would be ready to defend Belize if Belize was attacked by Guatemala.

There should be a "presence" from the contributing countries in Belize as well as a contingency plan to come to Belize's assistance in case of attack, he said.

The security scheme should involve the Commonwealth and countries in the Americas, Mr. Price said, and he expressed hopes for speedy action by the special eight-nation Commonwealth ministerial watchdog committee on Belize. This committee comprises Canada, Jamaica, Barbados, Guyana, Kenya, Nigeria, India and Malaysia and the Commonwealth Caribbean foreign ministers who met in Belmopan, the Belizean capital, two weeks ago, have already called for an early meeting of it. Mr. Price yesterday met Indian High Commissioner in Guyana Pushkar Johari, for talks on the matter.

Mr. Price said it was difficult to indicate whether he would go into independence unilaterally without the security system he wanted. Independence would be desirable, he said, but the reality was that Belizean forces numbered 1,500, while Guatemala had 12,000 regulars and 12,000 reservists.

Commenting on the attitude of the United States, Mr. Price said that there was support for Guatemala because of a greater financial and economic interest in that country which was six times larger than Belize and had six million people as compared with 150,000 in Belize. But Belize was trying to win over public opinion in the United States largely by working through such persons as United Nations Ambassador Andrew Young and such organisations as the black caucus (of congressmen). Belize was not racist, but it was a black, Third World country, he said.

After backgrounding the dispute involving Guatemala and Britain, along well-known lines, the Belizean leader said his government was against land cession for a number of reasons.

It was the United Kingdom which sponsored a resolution in the United Nations last year calling for secure independence for Belize. The resolution had support from 126 nations--of a UN membership of 149--with only four countries voting against: the four independent Central American states except Guatemala which abstained. It would be a contradiction now for Britain to suggest land cession as a solution to the problem, Mr. Price said. In his latest meeting in London, Foreign Secretary Dr. Owen told him that it was Britain's responsibility to solve the matter, and this might involve land cession and if the Belizean Government could not support that, then it should at least be neutral, he said.

Premier Price denied that the dispute could have been due partly to the fact that Belize was a haven for dissidents. He said people went to Belize from all parts of Latin America.

Land cession did not solve territorial problems, and if it happened in Belize, it would become a "mango of dispute" for the future, with no assurance that Guatemala would not remain land-hungry. If Guatemala got land in settlement of its claim, there would be pressures on other countries to cede land where there was territorial dispute.

Mr. Price noted too that Mexico has a claim to part of northern Belize but the Mexicans had said they would not press an independent Belize for territory. However, if Guatemala got land, then the Mexican people might pressure their government into demanding a similar concession.

Premier Price said that the longer it took for the question to be settled, the better it would be for Guatemala. According to him, Guatemala was trying to buy advanced aircraft from the United States, superior to the British Harriers in Belize. If this sale was concluded, then it would alter the military position in the area. Secondly, Guatemala was trying to "subvert" the country through its two radio stations based on the southern border of Belize, calling on the Belizeans to overthrow the government. Thirdly, Guatemala was trying to buy "traitors" and spending more money projecting its own image in the world.

Mr. Price commended Guyana for the support it has been giving to his country in the dispute, and expressed gratitude for a resolution of solidarity which the Guyana parliament unanimously endorsed last night while he was present in the assembly as an on-looker.

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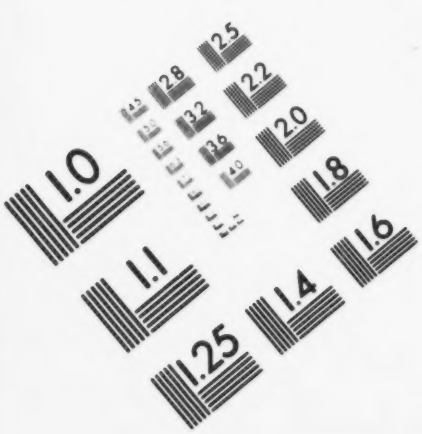

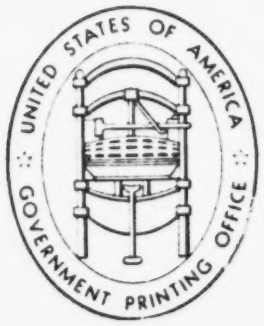

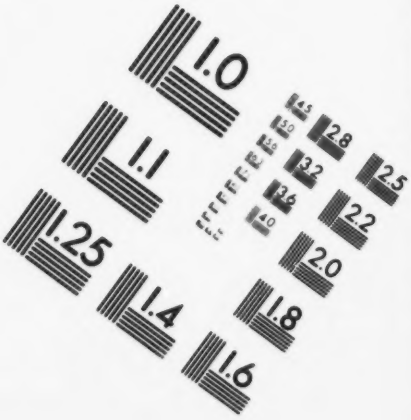

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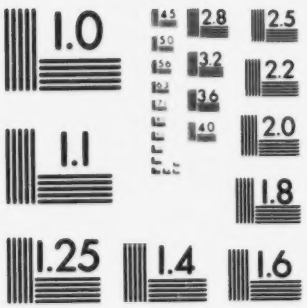

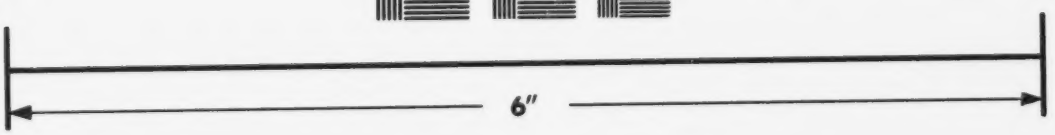

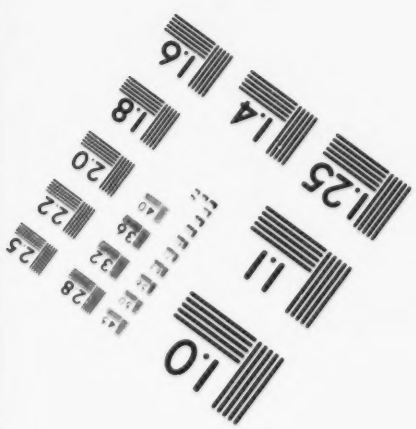

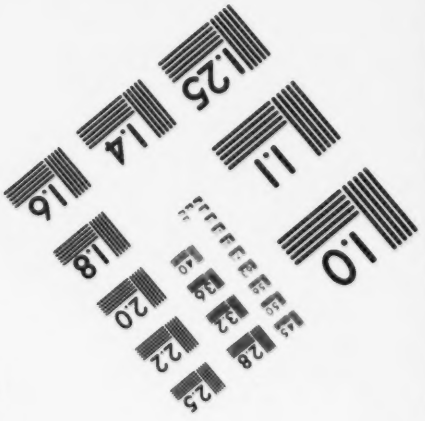

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